JPRS 75441

4 April 1980

Sub-Saharan Africa Report

No. 2229

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4 April 1980

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

No. 2229

CONTENTS

PAGE

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Role of French in Africa Examined by Jacques Raphael-Leygues
(Jacques Raphael-Leygues; LE MONDE, 5 Mar 80)..... 1

Exchange of Envoys Expected To Improve Kenyan-Ugandan Relations
(DAILY NATION, 7 Mar 80)..... 5

Official Communications Will Improve, Editorial Warning to Ugandan Leaders

Traders Sell Milk to Uganda Despite Kenyan Shortages
(DAILY NATION, 7 Mar 80)..... 8

Tanzanians Accused of Stripping Zambian Cars
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 8 Mar 80)..... 9

Briefs
Zairians Returned From Congo 10
ECOWAS Free Travel Protocol 10

ANGOLA

Briefs
Appointments Announced 11
Private Trade Attacked 11
Delegation to Spain 11

BURUNDI

Economic Situation, Efforts Summarized
(Karl Lavrencic; WEST AFRICA, 3 Mar 80)..... 12

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

CAMEROON

Briefs
LNG Plant 14
Gas Exploitation 14

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Briefs
Report Criticizes Progress Made 15

ETHIOPIA

EDLF Delegates in Paris Call for Humanitarian Aid for Eritreans
(LE MONDE, 15 Mar 80)..... 16

GABON

Lebanese Nonpayment of Taxes Discussed
(Makaya; L'UNION, 5 Feb 80)..... 17

Jobs in Vocational Education Field
(L'UNION, various dates)..... 18

Vocational Education Graduates
Lack of Jobs, by Makaya

Minimum Salary Increase Decreed
(L'UNION, various dates)..... 20

Ministerial Decree
Much Ado About Nothing, by Makaya

Briefs
Lack of Medical Supplies 22

GAMBIA

Groundnut Depot Program Opening Discussed
(WEST AFRICA, 10 Mar 80)..... 23

Briefs
Berreto Dam on Schedule 24
Planned Dock Workers Union 24

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

GHANA

Official Rejects State Enterprise Principle
(Ayikwei Armah; DAILY GRAPHIC, 25 Feb 80)..... 25

Appeal to Security Agencies for Better Work
(WEST AFRICA, 3 Mar 80)..... 26

Briefs
NUGS on AFRC Probe 27
Yugoslav Agricultural Cooperation 27
No Title for Egala 28

GUINEA-BISSAU

Interviewees Express Dissatisfaction With Own Life-styles
(NO PINTCHA, 13 Mar 80)..... 29

IVORY COAST

Ivorian Progress, Development Examined
(Jean-Claude Pomonti; LE MONDE, various dates)..... 30

Decline of Coconut Cultivation Reported
(FRATERNITE-MATIN, 30 Jan, 6 Feb 80)..... 43

Fresco Plantations Abandoned, by Hien Solo
Plantation Production in Decline

KENYA

U.S. Loan Agreement for Wheat Purchases Signed
(DAILY NATION, 7 Mar 80)..... 49

Bungoma Facing Flour, Wheat Shortage
(DAILY NATION, 5 Mar 80)..... 51

IFAD Loan Agreement Signed
(DAILY NATION, 5 Mar 80)..... 52

MP's Appointed to Sessional Committee
(DAILY NATION, 6 Mar 80)..... 53

MP's 'Have Important Role to Play' in National Development
(Editorial; DAILY NATION, 5 Mar 80)..... 54

University Students Held Liable for Strike Damage
(DAILY NATION, 6, 7 Mar 80)..... 56

Njonjo's Statement
Commission To Examine Issues Urged

'Some Progress' Made in Natural Resources Conservation
(DAILY NATION, 6 Mar 80)..... 58

Meru, Nyeri Facing Fuel Shortage
(DAILY NATION, 7 Mar 80)..... 60

Solar Power Pump Introduced
(DAILY NATION, 5 Mar 80)..... 61

Briefs
Drought Threatens Turkana 62
Expatriates 'Drawing Foreign Exchange' 62

LIBERIA

Vice President Returns From Tour
(THE LIBERIAN AGE, 7 Mar 80)..... 63

Minister Clarifies Annual Report
(THE LIBERIAN AGE, 7 Mar 80)..... 64

Nimba County Demonstrates Support for TWP, President
(THE LIBERIAN AGE, 7 Mar 80)..... 65

Gundo's Death, Blockade of Some Areas of Monrovia Related
(THE LIBERIAN AGE, 7 Mar 80)..... 67

Briefs
Captain, Engineer Facing Trial 69

MADAGASCAR

Speeches by Assembly Leader, Prime Minister Reported
(MADAGASCAR-MATIN, 12 Jan 80)..... 70

Speech by Assembly President
Speech by Prime Minister

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

Rising Import, Diminishing Export Figures for 1979
(MADAGASCAR-MATIN, 7, 8 Jan 80)..... 80

MALAWI

Economic Difficulties Spelled Out
(Editorial; MALAWI NEWS, 9 Mar 80)..... 85

Briefs
Corn for Needy 87

MALI

Briefs
Joint Franco-German-Malian Venture 88

MAURITIUS

Foreign Minister Reports on Trip, Matters Discussed
(LE MAURICIEN, 21 Feb 80)..... 89

Status, Ideology of PSM Described
(LE MAURICIEN, 13, 19 Feb 80)..... 92

Harish Boodhoo
PSM Proposal

MOZAMBIQUE

Use of Term 'Comrade' Explained, Discussed
(NOTICIAS, 30 Jan 80)..... 98

Private Groups To Attempt Coffee Production
(NOTICIAS, 1 Feb 80)..... 101

Briefs
Right to Oil Price Increase 103
Students in Cuba 103
ADB Agricultural Loans 104

NAMIBIA

Briefs
Damaraland Building Boom 105
Khomasdal Houses for White 105

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

Business Boom in Okahandja 105
Weaving Mill for Karibib 105

NIGERIA

Government's Potential Role in Rhodesia Discussed
(DAILY TIMES, various dates)..... 107

External Affairs Minister's Statement, by Liad Tella
Representative in Rhodesia, by Nick Fadugba
'DAILY TIMES' Editorial

NPN Leaders Discuss NPP Working Agreement
(DAILY TIMES, 10 Mar 80)..... 112

Traditional Rulers' Role Discussed
(Editorial; NEW NIGERIAN, 7 Mar 80)..... 113

Ex-Soldiers in Police Said To Cause Problems
(Mustapha Tor Waya; NEW NIGERIAN, 7 Mar 80)..... 114

Six African Communities Seek Work Permit Exemptions
(DAILY TIMES, 10 Mar 80)..... 115

Briefs
Dissolution of JAMB 116
Kaduna Assembly Controversy 116
Employment Preference for Locals 116
President's Title 117
Airways Service Improvement 117
Islamic Law Clarification 117
Lagos Power Projects 118
Price Index 118

RHODESIA

PM Moves Into Seat of Power
(THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 119

PM Holds First Cabinet Meeting, Grants Interview
(Tonic Sakaike; THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 120

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

Commentaries on Martial Law, Revamping of ZRBC
(Editorial; THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 122

Outlived Its Usefulness
Rumors Start Over ZRBC

Equal Treatment of Women Claimed
(THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 124

West German Assistance Offer Reported
(THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 125

Six Companies Hit by Strikes
(THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 126

Tindle: Maize Price Will Have To Rise
(THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 128

Ethanol Production Operation Reported
(THE HERALD, 19 Mar 80)..... 130

SENEGAL

Government's Economic Failures Have Political Effects
(WEST AFRICA, 10 Mar 80)..... 131

Briefs
New Leftist Monthly Journal 135

SIERRA LEONE

President Visits Gbangatoke During Southern Province Tour
(WEST AFRICA, 10 Mar 80)..... 136

Briefs
Airlink With USSR 137
Chinese Physicians Expected 137

SOUTH AFRICA

Soviet Arms Shipment Seized in Durban in April
(THE CITIZEN, 12 Mar 80)..... 138

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

Botha's States Conference Part of Constellation Plan
(Editorial; THE CITIZEN, 12 Mar 80)..... 139

SADF Role in Proposed Constellation Discussed
(PARATUS, Feb 80)..... 141

PRP-NRP Unity Talks Break Down Over Differences
(Jaap Theron; THE CITIZEN, 13 Mar 80)..... 147

Assocom Document Comments on Reikert Recommendations
(THE CITIZEN, 13 Mar 80)..... 149

Gazunkulu Chief Minister Cites Rhodesia Lesson
(THE CITIZEN, 12 Mar 80)..... 150

Briefs
Expected Revenue Surplus 151
Drought Damage in Natal 151
ANC Activity in Lesotho 152
Koornhof on Consolidation Proposals 152
Movement of Black Workers 152
Freedom Foundation Name Change 152

UGANDA

Foreign Firm Wins Contract Despite Lower Bid
(WEEKLY TOPIC, 8 Feb 80)..... 153

Briefs
Identity Cards 154
Money Wasted in Census 154

ZAIRE

Mobutu Delivers Address at Belgian Academy
(AZAP, 14 Mar 80)..... 155

Agreement Reached With Belgium on Funds
(ELIMA, 24 Jan 80)..... 158

Plans for Renewal of Country Discussed
(Attilio Gaudio; AFRICA, Feb 80)..... 159

CONTENTS (Continued) Page

ZAMBIA

Kamanga Comments on Reaction to Mugabe Victory
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 11 Mar 80)..... 163

Flaws of New Administrative System Diagnosed
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 7 Mar 80)..... 164

Reporting on Strikes Over Wage Increment, Prices
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, various dates)..... 166

Many Walkouts
Strikes Increase
MP's Oppose Increases
Government Firm on Decision

Hiring of Zairians as 'Cheap Labor' Claimed
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 12 Mar 80)..... 170

ZCTU Seeks To Halt Inflation
(Patches Lwenje; TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 9 Mar 80)..... 171

Ministries Owe Oil Firms Millions
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 10 Mar 80)..... 175

NOSCO Takeover Negotiations Reported
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 9 Mar 80)..... 176

Exodus of Pilots, Engineers Hamstrings ZFDS
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 9 Mar 80)..... 177

Development of Kafue Flats Planned
(Simon Mwanza; TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 7 Mar 80)..... 178

Animal Feed Crisis Hits Lusaka College
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 7 Mar 80)..... 179

Fishing, Tourism Can Resume, Says Zulu
(TIMES OF ZAMBIA, 13 Mar 80)..... 180

Briefs
Rustlers Menace South 182
Three Detained 182

ROLE OF FRENCH IN AFRICA EXAMINED BY JACQUES RAPHAEL-LEYGUES

Paris LE MONDE in French 5 Mar 80 p 7

[Article by Jacques Raphael-Leygues, former French ambassador to the Ivory Coast: "Africa and 'Its' French"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] Sometimes, when evaluating African problems, we rely too much on what General de Gaulle used to call /"old categories."/

The anarchistic military cafte serving in a civilian capacity and presumably overpaid, the teacher looking for romance under the tropics, the Frenchman working for a private company, who had dug himself in overseas and comes back to France with luxury cars, big cigars and real estate in Saint-Tropez, all these are picturesque imageries and easy caricatures.

These old categories are obsolete and, above all, they are false. Besides, the past, which has often been glorious, sometimes sordid, should not influence our present behavior. We should not hang on to this past, saying: /"We used to do that, that is what we must do."/ On the other hand, we can accept it, with its brilliant successes and its areas of shadow, we can accept it fully as we accept our childhood and our youth.

While it has made its mistakes, French colonization has launched the economy of some, not all, African countries; it has designed the economy of some, not all, African countries; it has conceived free education for all and free public health in many places, at a time when nobody had thought of it. It has given many peoples a common language which has remained theirs as it is ours: we should not forget that. Speaking French does not make vassals of African countries any more than speaking Portuguese in Brazil or English in the United States.

When it comes to Africa, there is no reason why France should be once again indicted in the name of some distinguished "sinistrosis." It is enough, to quote Paul Valery, "to understand what never was," and that is easy if one is sincere.

Two Evils

Africans have a profound understanding of a nature without winters--when one leaf falls off, another grows in its place. They are life. This is not an artificial world which would be limited to a few heads of states to be made fun of, with or without reason. It is a group of countries who, when they are not governed too badly, can reach an intense and emotional happiness, an harmony of human qualities, intelligence, gaiety and heart, which are rather rare.

But Africa, because of its wealth, because it is sparsely populated, because it does not share a common ideal or a common religion (as Mao Tse-Tung once told Georges Pompidou) is much coveted.

There, France can play a noble role in everybody's best interest. It shall not play it only through its equipment; it must play it through its men.

1. Our elegant public bodies--except for career diplomats--some of our employers, do not travel enough or, if they do, they remain inside air-conditioned hotels between two flights, and say: "These palm trees are fascinating!" But they do not stay in the countries and, therefore, do not acquire a well ventilated knowledge of foreign countries, except when they are sent directly and without preparation to a prestigious post. They almost never go through an African apprenticeship; to them, it would mean a loss of standing.

2. If they lack a knowledge of the field, they also lack imagination: not the slightest contact with Africans living in France. Victor Schoelcher used to say, using the words of his time: /"When we think of Africa, we must remember that is is peopled with Negroes."/ It is not possible to build an African policy solely on contacts with the military, businessmen and "European" secret agents.

Too often, the proponents of our welfare society see in Africa only Club Mediterranee stations, and do not realize that this whole continent can participate to peace between men and even to this welfare which they appreciate.

Military Draftees Serving in a Civilian Capacity

/"Cooperation gives jobs, not a career,"/ Alain Bry said. This is why, sometimes, it is not easy to find applicants for Africa. Those who are willing to expatriate themselves are said to be very demanding but, in fact, these demands would be much less if those who wish to leave were not worried about what their position will be when they come back; this is the core of the problem.

For military draftees employed in the public sector, the problem is the same, and it is still harder to understand why it has not been solved in their case.

Anyhow, both deserve esteem; they do the work expected from them with utter conscientiousness and are setting an example for these young countries. Ninety percent of these men and women, considered over a long period of time, deserve respect. French teachers in Africa teach their students with care and intelligence. They do not impose on them any particular way of thinking, not even their own. Often, they have made it possible for young Africans to discover themselves, to blossom out. Doctors, whether they fight in the country against the great endemic diseases (onchocerciasis, trypanosomiasis, etc.) or in the cities (curative medicine and surgery) are all worthy of our traditions and of our hopes. Engineers and specialists also do a remarkable job.

A Moral Handicap

With respect to its nationals residing in Africa, France suffers in fact only from a sort of moral handicap. The problem is viewed piecemeal. In France, problems of cooperation are tackled sometimes from one angle, sometimes from another. We see ministries who do not seem to appreciate much the military draftees serving in a civilian capacity under their control, and we do not know whether the private sector--which claims it wants to export-- really appreciates those who stay too long away from Paris in order to promote exportation.

We are told, and we read: /"We must export, and help exportation."/ But then, when we deliver a turnkey plant to buyers who do not have the necessary supervisory personnel, we should make the operation efficient. For that, we should be able to send over, for only a relatively short period of time, valuable engineers, higher-salaried staff, who would not dig themselves in like characters of former times. To operate sophisticated equipment, a certain amount of knowledge is required.

We are sometimes making fun of the Africans' inability to operate the equipment they buy; but sometimes this equipment does not work properly because those who design it ignore all African realities. As a result, our African customers will not be able to get rich if the equipment we sell them does not work; they will not buy any more from us, but from other countries.

The equipment supplied will be reliable when the men we are sending will show certain qualities in the field and know that, when they come back, their supervisors and colleagues will profit by the knowledge of Africa they will have acquired.

In Germany, in Japan, in Great-Britain and in the United States, future managers remain sometimes over 10 years overseas to get to know the problems of the world.

With us, in France, on the contrary, those who have been away for a long time are looked upon with some suspicion. They are asked suspiciously: /"How come you were away so long?"/

Senators representing French nationals residing abroad, and members of the High Council of French nationals residing abroad, have learned about this sad problem and have examined all of its aspects. They have said that "often, within a company, expatriate personnel is almost systematically ruled out for internal promotion. When our compatriots come back to France, they sometimes have to accept, in the company in which they started, jobs which may be considered as definitely depreciated if one takes into account their years of experience, their technical qualification and their knowledge of foreigners."

Senator Cantegrit, especially in the Senate, and Senator de Guttoli in another chamber, have underlined that promotion in French companies too often takes place within the Paris headquarters, while foreign companies rotate their managerial staff in order to develop their overall training, their practical experience, and to give them an adequate knowledge of exportation. With us, the expatriate is too often sacrificing his career.

As for military draftees serving in a civilian capacity in the public sector, when they come back to public office in France, especially following an internal competitive examination, they see that their experience abroad is not taken into account by the ministry in charge, contrary to all regulations. And that is the most outrageous thing of all!

Therefore, the problem is not a problem of credits.

No private or official cooperation is more desired in Africa than French cooperation. Our equipment and our personnel are of quality. Everybody acknowledges that. We must retain all this. How can we do it?

Palliatives

Much has been said about the assistance which the expatriates receive when they come back--unemployment compensation, lower retirement age--but these are only poor measures and palliatives. They tend to show that in certain public bodies there are some who believe that men of 45, coming back from "the colony" (as they still say), are young senior citizens who deserve no more than a small car with nice chromes; that, above all, they should not disrupt the hesitation-waltz of generations of engineers and National School Administration graduates who, in 80 percent of all cases, serve in Paris in order to improve their way of life, retain their habits and their ideas--which may be somewhat abstract--and make sure that their wives do not lose their positions as doctors, lawyers or civil servants in Paris.

The only solution is for the French expatriates, whether military draftees serving in a civilian capacity or employees of the private sector, not to be considered as desperados leaving their homeland as Kipling's hero in "The Light That Failed." They must set sail for the new world they are going to discover as dynamic pioneers of our influence. They must arrive in Africa already knowing what they can expect upon their return. France must adopt a policy covering both the public and the private sectors so that those who have left shall not be penalized.

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CSO:4400

EXCHANGE OF ENVOYS EXPECTED TO IMPROVE KENYAN-UGANDAN RELATIONS

Official Communications Will Improve

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 7 Mar 80 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] The appointment of the former MP for Kitale West, Mr. Wafula Wabuge, as Kenya's first High Commissioner to Kampala means official relations between Kenya and Uganda are being formalised and will take on a new shape with the two countries exchanging envoys.

Long before Mr. Wabuge's appointment the two countries had a lot to do with each other. Apart from being neighbours, they have had economic and cultural ties for as long as there have been people in the two nations. That is from time immemorial. Unfortunately, recent political developments in Uganda have imposed such constraints on these ties that at times it was difficult to see how the two countries could continue to be friends. Before Ugandan dictator Idi Amin was ousted from power he once laid claim to a huge chunk of Kenya, an act which led to furious protests in Kenya when wananchi took to the streets to demonstrate against the former Ugandan leader.

Even after Amin's overthrow those who took over power in Kampala have been closer to Tanzania than to Kenya even though Kenya is more important economically to Uganda than Tanzania is. Be that as it may, suggestions have been made on many occasions that diplomatic links between Nairobi and Kampala are necessary. It is only through such relations that the two nations can solve many of the problems of today caused by rumour, misunderstanding and even crime.

Early this week, for example, Uganda's President Godfrey Binaisa had to deny reports, originating in Dar es Salaam, alleging that Kenyan troops were poised to invade his country. A report published in the Ugandan weekly newspaper Topic claimed trouble was brewing on the Kenya-Uganda border where "Uganda's enemies (were) planning an invasion through Busia, Malaba and Rwakaka any time between now (February 29) and March 6." Yesterday

was March 6 and, as we all know, no one invaded Uganda from Kenya. The report might not have been printed in any Ugandan newspaper if we had Kenyan diplomats stationed in Kampala ready to provide true information to anyone needing it.

As Mr. Binaisa said, the reports were probably calculated to bring about hatred, mistrust and misunderstanding between the people of Kenya and those of Uganda. It is not too far-fetched even to suspect they were designed to disrupt Mr Binaisa's forthcoming meeting with President Daniel arap Moi and Dr. Julius Nyerere of Tanzania. The most disturbing aspect of the report concerning the imaginary invasion of Uganda by forces "backed by the Kenyan Government" is that they were printed in a newspaper owned by two Ugandan Cabinet Ministers.

The inevitable question is: What are they up to?

With the exchanging of envoys, Kampala and Nairobi have every opportunity to minimise the impact of false reports. Official communications between the two governments will improve so much that common problems such as cattle raiding and smuggling across the border will be tackled more effectively and with the minimum of misunderstanding.

No matter what political differences there may be between them, Kenya and Uganda will always remain neighbours and if they cannot be joined in some form of economic community then they can at least establish diplomatic relations. The decision by the leaders of the two nations to exchange envoys will go a long way toward making sure that Ugandans and Kenyans remain good friends and neighbours.

Obviously, not every politician in Uganda will be pleased with development which will improve relations between Kenya and Uganda. Among them will be the kind of people our Vice-President, Mr. Mwai Kibaki, referred to yesterday in Parliament when he said there were a few leaders in Kampala indulging in a smear campaign against Kenya.

It is not for Kenya to choose the kind of government Ugandans should have; neither is it the business of Ugandans to tell us what political system we should adopt. Whatever system the Ugandans want to adopt, it is in the interest of both nations that they should take steps to strengthen good neighbourliness and friendship. They lead to nothing but good.

Warning to Ugandan Leaders

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 7 Mar 80 pp 1, 4

[Excerpt]

VICE-PRESIDENT and Finance Minister Mwai Kibaki has warned some leaders in Uganda to stop their campaign against Kenya.

Moving the debate on the Presidential address when he opened Parliament on Tuesday, the Vice-President said President Moi stressed that we should be friendly to our neighbours. The neighbours, the Vice-President said, should also be friendly to Kenya. He warned Uganda to stop its campaign against Kenya.

Saying that only a few Ugandan leaders were engaged in the campaign, Mr Kibaki said they had stated in their Press that Kenya was intending to invade Uganda.

The Vice-President, who is also the Leader of Government Business, told an attentive House that Uganda should be grateful for the continued assistance it was receiving from Kenya instead of trying to promote what he termed as "scientific Socialism". He said Uganda should change into democratic Socialism.

CSO: 4420

TRADERS SELL MILK TO UGANDA DESPITE KENYAN SHORTAGES

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 7 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] While the rest of the country is experiencing acute shortage of milk, towns bordering Uganda have plenty of it.

The milk comes from Kisumu and Eldoret and is sold by well-to-do traders who hire trucks to transport it to Uganda.

Recently, a truck at Webuye was seen carrying hundreds of crates and its driver offered shopkeepers to take whatever quantity they could afford.

The driver said most of the milk he carried was destined for shops in Uganda.

Tororo also had plenty of KCC milk and vendors sold it at the open air market. Eating houses had plenty of UHT and fresh milk with KCC labels.

Busia District too had enough milk and a man travelling to Kisumu bought five packets at Bumala Market.

A Kisumu magistrate told the NATION that his housemaid was forced to buy bread before the shopkeeper agreed to sell milk to her.

A survey in Kisumu town confirmed that vendors were forcing milk customers to also buy bread or tea.

Housewives in Manyatta, Shauri Moyo and Kibuye estates complained that milk was only being sold to particular individuals or to those prepared to buy other things.

Mrs. Magdaline Adhiambo said her family had gone without milk for two weeks. The same story was repeated everywhere by irate housewives.

Officials at the Kisumu and Eldoret KCC depots declined to comment as to how, or whether, their milk was getting into Uganda.

CSO: 4420

TANZANIANS ACCUSED OF STRIPPING ZAMBIAN CARS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 8 Mar 80 p 2

[Text]

PORT workers at Dar es Salaam have been accused of pilfering tools and parts from vehicles ordered by the Zambian Government from Japan.

Inspector of Government transport for the northern region Mr Francis Fernandes, told provincial political secretary for the Copperbelt, Mr Cox Sikumba, yesterday that most of the Nissan patrol vehicles which had just arrived from Japan via Dar es Salaam had their tool boxes and various parts removed.

He was speaking before handing over vehicles, ordered for governors and secretaries, to Mr Sikumba at the Mechanical Services Branch. Mr Fernandes led a team of drivers to collect the vehicles from the port.

Copperbelt permanent secretary, Mr Jordan Munkanta, instructed the drivers to check what was missing on their vehicles and report to him. He did not say whether an official complaint would be lodged with the Tanzanian government.

Addressing the governors and district secretaries before he handed over the vehicles to them, Mr Sikumba warned them against misuse.

He said the vehicles should be treated like the officers' personal cars, but they should never use them as their personal property.

"The tendency among drivers to treat Government vehicles carelessly because they do not belong to them must end," he said.

He told them for a long time now, the Party and its Government had been worried about the system and means of enforcing maximum development throughout the country with particular attention placed on the critical lack of transport at district level.

He said it was not the intention of the Party and its Government to deny transport to the districts and that was the reason why steps were now taken to rectify the situation.

Mr Sikumba told the officers that whereas the number of vehicles in their districts had been increased, the fuel vote remained the same and inadequate.

This called for proper planning of movements by the officers. He said in the past, there was unco-ordinated movement by governors and district secretaries.

'We at the provincial headquarters have on several occasions been amazed by this lack of co-ordination. It is common to see a governor from a district coming in to see us in the morning, then a district secretary from the same place comes in later and regional officials following in later," he said.

He said if these officers co-ordinated, they could make use of one vehicle instead of wasting fuel unnecessarily by making separate trips.

The new vehicles are expected to drastically reduce the transportation burden which affected the distribution for many years.

Mr Sikumba said the Government had for a long time remained worried over the serious effects imposed on development by lack of adequate transport for district officials.

He attributed the Government's inability to provide transport to the unfavourable economic situation in the country.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

ZAIRIANS RETURNED FROM CONGO--Six hundred thirty-three Zairian citizens, natives of the subregions of Boma, Bas-Fleuve and Matadi, who were expelled from Brazzaville, People's Republic of the Congo, have arrived in Matadi aboard a special train which originated in Kinshasa. Upon their arrival at the SNCZ [Zairian National Railroad Company] station in the port city, a welcoming committee supervised by the subregional commissioner from Matadi, citizen Bassende Emina Bankand'O Nga, immediately began to register the expelled persons on the basis of their place of origin. This inventory produced the following results: of these 633 persons (men, women and children), three are from the urban subregion of Matadi, 559 from Bas-Fleuve and 39 from Boma. The Matadi subregional commissioner told AZAP that the evacuation operation was taking place in a very orderly manner. The task was greatly facilitated by the good morale of the repatriates. An initial group of 209 persons which is to go to Boma and Bas-Fleuve, was put aboard a special SNCZ train [vedette] which left Matadi for Boma during the night of Wednesday-Thursday. A second contingent of 194 persons made the trip to Boma Thursday morning at 1000 hours. Eleven other persons who are natives of the Seke-Banza region will be evacuated by a vehicle placed at their disposal by the regional government. [Text] [Kinshasa AZAP in French 22 Jan 80 p 3] 8143

ECOWAS FREE TRAVEL PROTOCOL--By 17 January only four ECOWAS nations--Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria and Togo--had signed the protocol permitting free circulation within the community. At a press conference in Accra, James Nti, assistant secretary general of the community, complained of procedural delays. When the seventh country ratifies the agreement citizens of the member-nations will be able to enter any community country without a visa, provided their stay does not exceed 90 days. [Paris DEMAIN 1'AFRIQUE in French 10 Mar 80 p 70]

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED--Luanda--Through a decree signed last Friday, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has appointed Manuel Pedro Pacavira, member of the Central Committee, to the post of secretary of the Central Committee in charge of the Department of Political-Ideological Education, Propaganda and Information (DEPPI). Manuel Pedro Pacavira, who was secretary of the Central Committee in charge of agriculture, livestock and fisheries until 7 March, is the Angolan minister of agriculture. Until his appointment, the post of secretary of the Central Committee in charge of the DEPPI was occupied by Lucio Lara, secretary of the Central Committee for Organization (DORGAN). In another move, the post of secretary of the Central Committee in charge of agriculture, livestock and fisheries has been filled by Antonio dos Santos Franca (N'dalu), who was appointed by the Political Bureau. Before his appointment, Antonio dos Santos Franca was secretary of the Central Committee in charge of culture and sports. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 11 Mar 80 p 5]

PRIVATE TRADE ATTACKED--Mbanza Congo--Comrade Almirante Dias, provincial commissioner of Zaire, met on 21 February with the private businessmen of this province to achieve the correct distribution of consumer goods to the people, thus satisfying their most urgent needs. In the course of the meeting, Comrade Almirante Dias reviewed in detail the laws on private commercial activity in the country and stressed the need to serve the people better. He then presented some products sold by private traders at speculative prices which had been detected by the popular vigilance and reported that some guilty traders have already been arrested. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portugese 13 Mar 80 p 1]

DELEGATION TO SPAIN--An Angolan delegation led by Comrade Lopo do Nascimento, member of the Central Committee of the party and minister of foreign trade, will depart on 26 March for Spain. The delegation, which was invited by the Spanish Government, will meet with government officials to study ways and means to broaden already existing economic and trade relations with Spain. It will remain in Spain until 29 March. Members of the delegation include Comrade Emilio Guerra, minister of fisheries and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Trade and from the National Bank of Angola. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Mar 80 p 2]

ECONOMIC SITUATION, EFFORTS SUMMARIZED

London WEST AFRICA in English 3 Mar 80 p 395

[Article by Karl Lavrencic: "More Than Poverty..."]

[Text]

OPEC is not a nice word in Burundi. The bills for imports of fuel and cost of transport on the route to and from Dar-es-Salaam have reached staggering proportions. Some ninety per cent of Burundi's imports, covering much of what the country needs, come through the Tanzanian port, over 1,000 km away as the crow flies.

But the Government in Bujumbura may feel it gains on the roundabout what it loses on the swings. Oil-rich Arabs, particularly Saudi Arabia, have recently become very important sources of aid, although most of this is for slowly gestating development projects rather than budget or balance of payments support.

"We have no immediate balance of payments problems", the energetic and young Minister of Planning and Finance, Mr. Donatien Bihute, told me in his office.

When prices of coffee, which accounts for over 90 per cent of all the country's earnings of foreign exchange, reached unheard of levels in 1977 money was pouring in. Also pouring in was foreign aid on concessional terms. Together these two flows brought the reserves of foreign assets to 7,760m. Burundi francs, FBu, (about £38.8m.), more than a year's import bill.

The situation since then changed in respect of coffee whose prices have been steadily declining. Unfortunately, the current development plan, 1978-1981, was framed at the time when most people expected the coffee bonanza would go on.

"Now, we have to lower our sights", the Minister explained. Expenditure under the Plan has been reduced from 72,200m. FBu to 49,400m. FBu, a reduction of 31.6 per cent. At the same time the share of external aid in the total finance is to go up from 55 per cent to 62.5 per cent.

Burundi, however, should have no problem in attracting additional financial assistance. Qualifying for most of U N classifications of underprivileged countries, including the groups of the Least Developed and Most Seriously Affected as well as the Land-locked countries, Burundi has been a favourite target of generous international support.

Poverty is not enough, of course. There is little doubt that the government of President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza has impressed foreign donors by its serious dedication to economic and social development since it came to power just under 4 years ago. Burundi also has what some of the poorest countries lack: readily available, bankable and viable development projects. The Burundi Ministers have been losing no time in shopping around the world, for aid to finance their development plans, mostly for agriculture and rural development.

Burundi has a reasonably good economic infrastructure, including roads, and a reserve of skilled manpower. It has also been attractive to several international organisations for the special nature of some

of its development problems.

Much of this is due to the fact that Burundi, like the neighbouring Rwanda, is one of the most densely populated countries in Africa, with about 150 inhabitants per square kilometre. This has already led to serious problems of soil erosion and deforestation. But the problem, which already causes grave concern in Burundi, is about to affect many other African countries. Lack of free and fertile land and the ensuing need for more rational and intensive agriculture as well as soil preservation and re-afforestation are becoming universal in much of Africa.

"What is needed is a completely new attitude of the people to the soil and farming". Monsieur Jaques Jallade, manager of an integrated rural development project told me at Gitega, some 100 km west of Bujumbura.

"But we can only achieve this if we bring into our scheme the entire population of an area, men, women and children".

A grave mistake has been made in the past in neglecting women, because it is they who do most of the farming work. In the UNDP sponsored project a special component, financed by UNICEF, is entirely devoted to the training of women as farmers. Since the scheme has been in operation excellent results have been achieved in better yields, as the women took to improved farm techniques and using selected seeds and fertilisers. A simple technology has been introduced to help improve productivity, a rudimentary co-operative has provided the peasants with inputs on credit and buys their produce.

The beauty of this pilot project is that it pays its way. The World Bank was so impressed that a major loan has been agreed for a much larger programme based on the Gitega scheme.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

LNG PLANT--Yaounde, 19 Mar (AFP)--Cameroon's state energy company and foreign oil companies will begin construction in 1983 of a plant to liquefy natural gas at Kribi, on the southern coast, the government announced today. Representatives of the National Hydrocarbons Company, created last week, and the foreign firms--ELF-ERAP, Coast Oil, Mobil, Shell and Total--agreed to the arrangement here yesterday. The government statement said that preliminary studies would be undertaken immediately. They are to be completed by December 1982. Construction of the plant will begin the following year and is to be finished in 1987, the statement said. Large deposits of natural gas have been discovered in the Atlantic recently off Kribi and off Victoria, on the west African country's northern coast. [Text] [AB192151 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 19 Mar 80 AB]

GAS EXPLOITATION--Experts from the National Petroleum Corporation and oil companies for petroleum exploitation and exportation in Cameroon met in Yaounde yesterday to discuss the possibility and ways of exploiting nitrogen [as heard] gas discovered in Cameroon recently. During the meeting, the experts agreed to cooperate with each other to make their work easy and successful. The meeting was held at the presidency of the republic in Yaounde. The oil companies (?engaged) in oil exploitation in Cameroon are ELF-Europe, Gulf Oil, Mobil Oil, Shell [word indistinct] and CFC Total. [Text] [AB191945 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 19 Mar 80 AB]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

REPORT CRITICIZES PROGRESS MADE--The lack of techniques for political control may endanger the gains made in Equatorial Guinea after the overthrow of the dictator Francisco Macias last August. This is the conclusion reached by a report on Equatorial Guinea made by a professor from Costa Rica, Volio Gimenez, at the request of the UN human rights commission. The report was recently published in Geneva. In his report the professor referred to the advances attempted in the country after the establishment of the new regime, especially in the field of religious and educational freedom, which were repressed harshly during the regime of Macias. The report also mentioned the necessity that Equatorial Guinea receive international support and that the new authorities, in addition to permitting the return of all those exiled from the country for political reasons, convene a constituent assembly and guarantee all public freedoms. [Text] [Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 8]

CSO: 4410

EPLF DELEGATES IN PARIS CALL FOR HUMANITARIAN AID FOR ERITREANS

LD181009 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Mar 80 p 6 LD

[Unattributed report: "The Eritrean Popular Liberation Front Reports Major Victories"]

[Text] Several delegates from the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front [EPLF] announced in Paris on Thursday, 13 March, that the Eritrean people who "are pursuing their resistance against Ethiopia" need humanitarian aid.

During a press conference EPLF Politburo member and foreign relations chief (Alamin Mohamed Said) and EPLF delegate to Paris (Nafih Kurdi) recalled that the Eritrean people have been fighting the "Ethiopian colonial power" for 19 years.

Reporting on the counteroffensive launched by "the EPLF Popular Army in December 1979 and January 1980 against an extremely heavily equipped 55,000-strong Ethiopian Army," they calculated that "some 10,000" Ethiopian soldiers were put out of action and affirmed that they had captured 15 T-54 tanks and a "considerable quantity" of heavy armaments, including "122mm, 76mm, and 44mm guns."

After listening to a report on the situation of several hundred thousand refugees or displaced persons, Dr Kouchner, who visited Eritrea on behalf of Medecins Sans Frontieres, said that his new group Medecins du Monde, is planning to open a hospital in Nakfa--"the last free Eritrean city."

CSO: 4400

LEBANESE NONPAYMENT OF TAXES DISCUSSED

Libreville L'UNION in French 5 Feb 80 p 1

[Article by Makaya]

[Text] In a long communication that comes over the radio, the Direct and Indirect Contributions Board tells us that the Syrian-Lebanese are not in order with the Gabonese Internal Revenue. Thus it has just noticed that those gentlemen who are opening store after store are not only depriving the National Social Security Fund of the contributions due from each employer, but at the same time they are diddling the state, which cannot get the benefit from taxes due from each salary and each corporation. Those people are also causing misery in the cottages of the poor, for in case of disease or accident, the unfortunates who work for them receive nothing at all.

To the Direct Contributions, this is a great discovery worthy of a decoration. Isn't it? But I, Makaya, assure you that I knew all of this long ago; just as I know that other foreigners who come in the guise of "tourists" put down roots and prosper in full view of Direct Contributions. It is the same with all the others who are blackmailing a certain manpower that is there to do its master's bidding.

Direct Contributions would do well to tell us also what all these grafters are risking doing to our national finances.

8946
CSO: 4400

JOBS IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION FIELD

Vocational Education Graduates

Libreville L'UNION in French 31 Jan 80 p 1

[Excerpts] Eighty-two trainees of both sexes, solely for the Libreville center, 9 of whom are in the electrical construction section, 30 in accounting, 16 in stenography and 27 in typing, received their diplomas yesterday morning from the hands of the minister of Vocational Education and some of his associates.

In his speech for the occasion, Richard Nguema spoke of his feeling of satisfaction with the results obtained this year: 269 trainees admitted in all, representing all of Gabon's training centers, or 90 percent as compared with 75 percent last year. "This is due," he said, addressing the happy recipients, "to the serious work you have done during your training period. The diploma you are about to receive gives you access to employment."

Lack of Jobs

Libreville L'UNION in French 30 Jan 80 p 1

[Article by Makaya]

[Text] There is one sector of our children's education that deserves your attention--vocational training. Long ago a great debate went on between national leaders and private sector employers over the lack of interest shown by the latter in those young men and women who graduate from Nkembo and Port-Gentil in particular.

We all followed that interminable discussion, but afterwards, unfortunately, no one gave us the result of the many steps that were undertaken. So that to this day I am asking whatever became of those children.

The question is important, they tell me, because of the fact that in the economic capital employers refuse to have anything to do with vocational training because it is expensive.

In Libreville, it seems, less than 3 percent of those admitted find buyers on the employment market, whereas these are young people who are good workers.

What does all this chicanery mean? I, Makaya, dare to hope that all those children will not be left on the shelf in our country's development.

8946
CSO: - 4400

MINIMUM SALARY INCREASE DECREED

Ministerial Decree

Libreville L'UNION in French 30 Jan 80 p 4

[Text] The Labor and Social Security Ministry reports:

By decree of 29 December 1979 a national subsistence allowance is granted, beginning 1 January 1980, to all workers of Gabonese nationality receiving a salary under 40,000 CFA francs.

The national subsistence allowance is equal to the difference between the basic monthly salary and the sum of 40,000 CFA francs. It is calculated once and for all in reference to the salary received for one month's normal work, and is exempt from any surcharge or deduction. It is not subject to taxes or any reduction.

It is not taken into account in calculating other allowances similar to salaries, such as allowances for services rendered, unemployment allowances, etc. Payment of the allowance must be given special mention on the pay voucher and must appear after any deductions.

Much Ado About Nothing

Libreville L'UNION in French 2-3 Feb 80 p 1

[Article by Makaya]

[Text] Communiques on calculating the national subsistence bonus are inundating the radio. I, Makaya, understand absolutely none of them. Maybe my boss, who handles all the figures at the end of the month to calculate my minimum wage earner's salary, is getting through it very well. In any case, it is not shaping up as predicted by the honorable Makaya, who spoke of our being paid a few cents under the table to fill out the month ends, which have become more difficult since the Syrian-Lebanese are laying down the law in the neighborhood, with their prices beyond the reach of my purse.

In fact my cousin, who is an accountant in a market firm, tells me that after all is said and done very few of us will get our hands on the promised sum. Because, he says, most of us earn a little more than 30,000 francs, some of us nearly 40,000. So that when the Finance Ministry says the subsistence bonus is to be calculated on the basis of the salary that I, Makaya, am currently earning, this boils down to paying only a little over 1,000 or 2,000 francs to some people. Now I am left unsatisfied and goodbye, roast chicken, filet and mullet.

8946
CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

LACK OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES--An incredible story happened to one of my cousins in the so-called general hospital. There is nothing there. Really nothing at all. I already knew that mercurochrome was lacking. I also knew that to have one's temperature taken one had to bring his own thermometer. In short, something is always missing in that large hospital institution. So the other day my cousin presents himself at the hospital for an anti-tetanus shot. Imagine his surprise when he heard that he would have to provide a syringe! While he was at it, the nurse told him that for 2 weeks the house had had a shortage of sutures for stitching large wounds. However, I know there exists a pharmacy for supplying that kind of little thing. Does their rarity--and often their long-time nonexistence--mean that this large pharmacy is empty, and that one cannot procure what is necessary for saving the lives of all of us? There is a disease that must be cured. [Article by Makaya] [Text] [Libreville L'UNION in French 22 Jan 80 p 1] 8946

CSO: 4400

GROUNDNUT DEPOT PROGRAM OPENING DISCUSSED

London WEST AFRICA in English 10 Mar 80 p 462

[Text]

The Gambia Produce Marketing Board, GPMB, has opened the seventh of its planned eight groundnut depots, at Tendaba. The countrywide depot programme is part of D20m. package to shelter the harvested groundnut crop.

The Tendaba depot was opened by President Sir Dawda Jawara as part of the celebration of The Gambia's 15 years of independence.

The president commended the GPMB for its achievements in constructing the D2m. depot which he said was one of the most modern in West Africa. He said the opening emphasised the importance of the depot programme being an indispensable component of the requirements in our drive to increase agricultural production.

GPMB Chairman, Mr. M. B. O. Jallow, said the depot is one of those within a 40-kilometre radius of 12 buying stations set to minimise produce transit. It can hold 4,200 tonnes in storage and has a conveyor system which can handle up to 40 tonnes per hour. It will also be able to cope with the project increases of 180,000 tonnes in annual production by 1983. The new facilities, Mr. Jallow said, would allow the crop to be evacuated to processing plants, mills, and shipping points well before the onset of the proper rains even at their earliest.

The GPMB received praise from Sir Dawda for its role in pioneering the development of cash crops such as cotton, a fact which convinced government, according to the president of the need to modernise all facilities.

The depot scheme, commenced in 1975, covers crop shelters at Basse (2), Kuntaur, Kaur, Bansang, Kerewan, Tendaba and Barra. The Barra facilities should also be completed and ready for operation this season.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

BERRETO DAM ON SCHEDULE--The 2.6-kilometre anti-salt water dam at Berreto, which began in 1977, should be completed on schedule in June according to reports from the constructors Dieter Schulze, engineers and Freedom From Hunger Campaign (FFHC) extension workers. The dam should lead to irrigation of 300 hectares of land for rice cultivation. The complete project will include drainage channels and sluice gates for watering the fields. The Dieter Schulze spokesman said that approximately D177,425, in the form of rice, oil and other incentives, had so far been provided for the 1,300 volunteers who are helping with the work. The project is financed by the FFHC and will be handed over to the Agriculture Ministry, which has been advised to leave the land fallow for three years before starting cultivation. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 10 Mar 80 p 462]

PLANNED DOCK WORKERS UNION--Plans to set up a Gambia Dock Workers Union have been welcomed by Labour Department officials who said it was a move which augured well for the Department's long term desire to see the establishment of a Trade Union Congress so as to make the coordination of labour affairs much easier. The Department saw the dockworkers as pacesetters whose pattern, if it catches on, could bring similar small industrial unions together and eliminate the problem of rivalries between coworkers who belong to different unions; for example, the three motor drivers' unions and Gambia Dock Workers. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 10 Mar 80 p 462]

CSO: 4420

OFFICIAL REJECTS STATE ENTERPRISE PRINCIPLE

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 25 Feb 80 p 16

[Article by Ayikwei Armah]

[Text]

DR Kwame Safo-Adu, member of the Council of State, has said that at this crucial hour of her development Ghana "can ill-afford the luxury of State Enterprise".

He said contemporary history had proved from country to country in Europe, Asia or Africa that state participation in agriculture or industry was wasteful and inefficient

At the same time, he said, the general poverty and under development in the country demands the ideals and the vision of the greatest socialist dreamers.

Addressing a symposium on the topic "Is There Any Place For Ideology in the Third Republic" held at the Accra Academy Secondary School at the week-end, Dr Safo-Adu urged the government to evolve a system which would aim at achieving the noblest ideals of socialism, but by using the economic machinery of free enterprise.

He observed that until the government made it its realistic responsibility to draw up a programme with an inbuilt incentive system for the individual, the country would get nowwhere with all the lectures and sermons on patriotism, nationalism and sacrifice.

Dr Safo-Adu, who is also a leading member of the PFP said that the idea that one has to believe in one ideology for which the formula was already known as socialism, communism or capitalism, Bible or Koran "is an insult to human intelligence."

He said that it has been entrenched in the constitution, a system of ideas to guide political actions which was neither all socialist or all capitalist or even all of welfare state.

"In nature", he said" the constitution has obviously written a manifesto for all political parties".

Talking on "Separation of Powers Under Third Republic" Nii Amaa Amarteifio a leading member of the United National Convention (UNC) pointed out that the power of government is vested in three institutions — the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary which neutralise any dictatorial rule.

CSO: 4420

APPEAL TO SECURITY AGENCIES FOR BETTER WORK

London WEST AFRICA in English 3 Mar 80 p 417

[Text]

Mr. B. J. da Rocha, Secretary General of the Popular Front Party, has joined the debate on the role of the national security agencies in Ghana by appealing to Flight-Lt. Rawlings to lead 'an anti-coup crusade'. In a half-page advertisement in the February 20 edition of the *Daily Graphic*, Mr. da Rocha offered details of the death of his brother in 1972, whom Flight-Lt. Rawlings mentioned in his statement to the press last week, (*West Africa*, February 25). Under the title, 'The Sad Case of Moses Ambrose da Rocha', Mr. da Rocha describes his brother's arbitrary arrest, torture and death: "The nails of his fingers and toes were pulled out. His testicles were almost crushed. His thighs and back were covered with the most frightening bruises. His ribs were kicked in and his lungs collapsed. He died in agony." And he describes how an official conspiracy prevented the case from being investigated or reported in the press. His brother's case, he said, was one of many which had resulted from the "national fetish" which had been built around security. Governments must be made to feel more secure, he said, and made an appeal to Flight-Lt. Rawlings to "persuade his military colleagues and coup-minded civilians that this nation cannot afford any more coups". And he appealed to the various security and law enforcement agencies to "bring some more discrimination to bear on their work", since unprocessed information would prevent the government from identifying the real threats to national security.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

NUGS ON AFRC PROBE--The National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS) has warned in Kumasi that the call for a probe into the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) period would be "fiercely resisted by all people who hold June 4 very dear." In a statement issued at the 16th annual congress of the NUGS being held at the University of Science and Technology (UST) in Kumasi, the students noted that a probe of all those associated with the AFRC was a call for the investigation of the whole June 4 era, the junior ranks of the Armed Forces, the students and the working people. It said the announcement that two members of the AFRC, Captain Boakye-Djan and Major Mensah-Poku, had called for a probe of the AFRC period was "the latest and most vicious intrigue in mounting campaign by reactionary forces to reverse the gains of the June 4 Revolution." The statement said the students considered the latest maneuvre as part of the general campaign by reactionary forces to reverse the gains of the June 4 Revolution." The statement said the students considered the latest maneuvre as part of the general campaign by imperialism and its local agents to deprive the working people of the country of their democratic gains. The fact that the two former members of the AFRC "are now being used for this purpose should not deceive anybody," it said. The statement observed that the two officers, still serving members of the Ghana Armed Forces, were able to fly all the way from London to Accra and speak at a press conference organized by the Director of the Military Intelligence (MI) and they would like to know if the flight home and the press conference were authorized by the Chief of Defense Staff and if so, under what circumstances was such authorization given. [Text] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 26 Feb 80 p 14]

YUGOSLAV AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION--A leading Yugoslav agricultural establishment has entered into partnership with five Ghanaian enterpreneurs to establish large scale farm projects. Under the projects, maize and sunflower would be cultivated together with the raising of livestock and poultry on commercial basis for home consumption and for export. The establishment, "Agros" Composite Organization of Associated Labor, have already completed research into the projects which showed that suitable lands for large scale production of maize and sunflower are available around Atebubu, Kumasi, Kibi, Sunyani and Winneba. Announcing this at a press conference

in Accra yesterday, the Yugoslav Ambassador in Ghana, Mr Laslo Bala, who declined to name the four Ghanaian partners, said the Ghanaian entrepreneurs would be required to obtain lands and prepare them for farming while their Yugoslav partners would provide machinery, expertise, housing and a training school for the employees of the farms. Mr Bala said as a start, about 600 hectres of farm would be established on experimental basis as a means to further determine the feasibility of the projects. [Excerpt] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 23 Feb 80 p 7]

NO TITLE FOR EGALA--Nana Okutwer Bekoe III, national chairman of the ruling Peoples' National Party (PNP), yesterday declared that Alhaji Imoru Egala "cannot hold out himself as the spokesman of the party." According to the chairman, the constitution of the party makes no provision for the post of 'father' or 'founder' and emphasized that Alhaji Egala has no legal right to confer on himself any of the two unconstitutional titles. Addressing a crowded press conference in Accra, Nano Bekoe stated that the party would not allow any individual or groups to undermine the party's constitution nor reverse the decisions of the party. Nano Bekoe pointed out that, the court order which "disqualified and restrained Alhaji Egala from holding himself out as a leader and chairman of PNP still stands." The chairman explained that at no time since the birth of the PNP had the party appointed Alhaji Egala as a 'founder' or 'father' as he claims to be now. [Text] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 22 Feb 80 p 1]

CSO: 4420

INTERVIEWEES EXPRESS DISSATISFACTION WITH OWN LIFESTYLES

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 13 Mar 80 p 2

[Excerpts] Very often, people find themselves compelled to live the kind of life they do not care for too much. This may be due to lack of money, or to a number of reasons. Our interviews today bear on the theme "are you satisfied with your own life?" The answers make it clear that, when all is said and done, almost no one is happy. Some would like to spend their lives traveling, but must spend their time working because they are poor. Others would like to undertake higher studies but cannot afford it because they have no grants, and so on and so forth.

Emilia Edite, 19, teacher: "Very often, when I am unhappy with myself, I say: if only I could be wealthy! But since I must work for a living, I tend to forget this when I am happy with myself. On the other hand, I do not like my lifestyle. I teach in the morning, take a nap in the afternoon, go out for a while, have dinner and at night I go straight to bed, since there are no diversions in Bissau. I think Bissau is very monotonous, and people tend to get tired of repeating the same things every day. I love my job, it is the best thing in the world. We say sometimes that we are tired of working, but work is the only entertainment here in Bissau. But I would also love to have some money to travel abroad sometimes during my vacation."

Armando Mendonca, 38, civil servant: "I am dissatisfied with my lifestyle, because instead of freeing us, it makes slaves of us. One works from morning to evening, and there are no places to provide some entertainment. One tends to lose interest after a while. But I have five children and I must bring them up. One gets up in the morning and starts thinking about one's salary, about the fact that the cost of living is high; one's wife is always complaining that the money is not enough for anything. These are things that would not happen if we had a little more money. Sometimes I worry about the increase in the cost of living, and where it will all end. I keep telling myself, though, that we must face life with courage. Otherwise we would really lose faith."

Maria Soares, 22, student-worker: "I would love to obtain a study grant for higher studies, but have been unable to get one. Had I been successful, I would not be in Bissau right now. I do have an adventurous spirit. I love to travel; it is the only thing that gives me pleasure. No, I do not like my life right now."

CSO: 4401

IVORIAN PROGRESS, DEVELOPMENT EXAMINED

Paris LE MONDE in French 29, 30, 31 Jan 80

[Article by special correspondant Jean-Claude Pomonti: "A Self-Made Africa"]

[29 Jan 80 pp 1, 6]

[Text] Like most of the French-speaking states in black Africa, Ivory Coast is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its independence in 1980. In this country, which has experienced sustained political stability and remarkable economic expansion, the third decade of independence begins under the dual influence of the succession -- President Houphouet-Boigny being 74 years old -- and a very definite slowdown in growth. In that connection, the Ivorian president received, at Abidjan on 25 January, Jacques de Larosiere, the director general of the International Monetary Fund. It appears that the IMF is concerned about the foreign debt of a country now forced to appeal for commercial loans to finance its development projects.

A Successful Wager

Abidjan -- An airconditioned monster in French-speaking Africa, with its skyscrapers, its overpasses, and the feverishness of construction sites effacing the equatorial forest, the Ivorian capital produces the same kind of shock as would the reconstruction of Manhattan on the lagoons of the Gulf of Guinea.

Leaving the international airport at Port-Boue, we are already being told that the broad avenue Giscard d'Estaing, serving the center of the city, is soon to make way for a "triumphal route." It will cut across the working class districts and skirt the Plateau, the heart of the city. The museum, being located on the planned route, "will have to be pulled down." On the eve of independence, in 1960, there were 120,000 inhabitants, and there are

at least 10 times that many today. By 1985, 2 out of every 10 inhabitants of Ivory Coast will live in Abidjan.

The dream some citizens harbor of getting rich -- there is talk of 120 billionaires in CFA [African Financial Community] francs -- comes to terms here when need be with the omnipotence of French companies and large Lebanese commercial interests. The result is impressive: an urbanized black and white society, fond of flaunting its wealth, and reaching out its tentacles toward the interior of the country.

In Ivory Coast, tar is in a race with buses, and thanks to little battery-equipped screens, audiovisual has come to back-country schools without waiting for installation of electricity. Miracle or mirage, development, or more exactly, the outward signs of economic growth, are, above all, a subject for bewilderment.

"Fundamentally," sums up a Frenchman who has been living here for several years, "the Ivorians have accomplished what the other Africans dream about." So far as the dream of the "elite" is concerned, the observation is an accurate one.

On the ill-defined boundaries between the equatorial forest and the savannah, quite close to some little "sacred woods" in which fetichism still lives on, the would-be futurist showcases of Africa are now ready or in preparation.

Thus in Yamoussoukro or Bouake, in the middle of the country, and even at Korhogo, in the North, people hanker for "big hotel style civilization," with swimming pools and tennis courts. Along Ivorian highways, little modern residential clusters -- bungalows and seclusive gardens -- are springing up. The department stores in Abidjan are overflowing with imports, from fine wines to fresh vegetables, with French cheeses among them. In the African grocery shops of Korhogo, a big northern rural center, top quality Aarberg sugar from Switzerland can be found.

Even in the forest, where people often make their living gathering coffee or cocoa beans, the change is noticeable. "Harvesting a ton of coffee will bring in about 6,000 francs in January for a small planter, enough to clothe him, buy a piece of jewelry for his wife, a sheep and some wine to celebrate it all, and perhaps even a radio set," a Swiss agricultural expert explained to us.

In the southern forest, as in the northern savannah, Valpierre -- a coarse red French wine -- is carving out a good market under the nickname "gramoxone" (from the name of the defoliant used by the Americans in Vietnam,) just like beer, gin, and even whisky. Maggi bouillon cubes, locally manufactured, are also an unqualified success. Even though families save little, the children can go to school now, and in the African tradition, life's important events are celebrated "properly." Celebrating a funeral may last as long as a week.

"Rendez-vous in 20 Years"

In a country which at the time it became independent was lagging behind its English-speaking neighbors, like Ghana, or the French-speaking ones, like Guinea, the aspect of conspicuous evening of the score in this progress is not without importance. Shepherded along by the "Old Man," -- as President Houphouet-Boigny is nicknamed with respectful familiarity -- Ivory Coast is glad it refused "cut-rate development," to quote an expression that comes up in every conversation. When receiving the "socialist" Nkrumah in Abidjan in 1957, the future Ivorian president had not concealed from him his ambition of associating his country, after accession to sovereignty, with the former parent state. "Rendez-vous in 20 years," he had challenged the pan-African visionary, proposing a "friendly competition." Driven from office in 1966, Nkrumah died in exile shortly afterward. Ghana has had trouble, since the start, defining a political line, and its economy has become so disorganized that for some time a good portion of its cocoa harvest has been illicitly reaching Ivory Coast, where it is bought for a better price.

In the eyes of Ivorian leaders, the wager made by Mr Houphouet-Boigny 20 years ago has been won. Gross domestic product has tripled. Per capita income is estimated at 4,500 francs a year, one of the continent's highest. Even though this figure is not much over 1,000 francs in the interior, it represents a more or less general increase in wealth. Economic growth has been really remarkable: a rate of 10 percent for the 10 years following independence, which has remained very respectable ever since (between 6 percent and 8 percent, according to the year, except for a serious decline in 1974).

The reasons for this economic break-through are rather complex. Instinctively, and probably, to start with, because of a preference for small steps, the long indisputable authority of the Baoulé chief, a former minister of state of de Gaulle's, of the "Old Man" who can with justification claim the fatherhood of independence, derived the first benefits from the development of agricultural products for export. "Houphouet is a peasant, and he placed his bet on agriculture," it is often said in Abidjan. The Ivorian capital was built initially on the dividends from the development -- and on the pillaging, too, alas! -- of a rich equatorial forest: 80 percent of the lumber production is exported year after year, with the rarest species now starting to disappear, despite some belated reforestation efforts. It was also built on mountains of coffee and cocoa, of which Ivory Coast is the top African producer. Coffee production rose from 185,500 tons in 1961 to 250,000 tons in 1979, and that of cocoa from 93,605 tons to 320,000 tons during the same period, bringing into existence a rural lower middle class whose presence accounts in large part for the stability of the regime.

The planter prosperity has been accompanied by perceptible expansion in other types of crops -- and the brith of a complementary agro-industrial sector: palm oil in the South, rice and cotton in the savannah. Take

cotton for example: production has increased fivefold the last 10 years, encouraging the development of weaving locally. Around Korhogo, traditional weavers, organized in groups serving as cooperatives, are obivously doing well. But Ivory Coast has not overlooked broad-range development plans, either; since 1972, in the middle of the country, the Kossou dam has made it possible to develop the Bandama valley and strengthen the country's hydroelectric potential.

Forty-five Thousand French

Another important advantage: Ivory Coast has managed to attract a large body of African manpower -- about 2 million workers -- from less well off neighboring countries. On the plantations and construction sites, in the forest and the savannah, Malians, Guineans, and especially Voltans have been and continue to be, the labor force in Ivorian development. They make up nearly one-third of a population estimated at close to 8 million inhabitants. There is no lack of hands, and for reasons related to both habit and "efficiency" -- an argument frequently put forward by Mr Houphouet-Boigny -- they are under the orders of European, most often French, managers and foremen. The little 1960 French community -- 7,900 persons -- has grown: by the end of the 1979 summer vacation period, our countrymen numbered between 45,000 and 47,000, including 4,500 cooperants. Long-term residents, "old colonials," are down to 5,000 now. Between 7,000 and 8,000 French nationals are not registered at the French consulate, and their situations, in many cases not in compliance with regulations, show that the government is not strict in this respect. Indeed, the influx of French citizens is poorly regulated by Abidjan. With their families, cooperants make up a body of 20,000 persons. In September, in time for the beginning of the school year, as many as 59 flights a week originating in France were counted, including 34 extra ones, to bring the little community of teachers and experts back to work.

The free movement of capital and the huge credits allocated to education -- 30 percent of the budget -- or to the equipment effort -- have created a syphon effect. Germans, Swiss, Taiwanese, Americans are also active locally. The Lebanese trade community has benefitted by the reflux of capital and men caused by the war in Lebanon. These enterprising middlemen -- construction, tradespeople -- today make up a coherent unit of 100,000 persons. The French, however, so far as Ivorians are concerned, are still the traditional interlocutors, who come to mind first, sometimes as models, often as partners and associates. "Within the framework of their actual development, we offer them immediate answers," a high ranking French official assures us. "Senghor writes about Eurafrica; I am creating it," President Houphouet-Boigny is said to have stated one day.

The final ingredient in Ivorian success: a big dose of luck. Between 1976 and 1978, the boom in the world coffee and cocoa market set economic growth on the move again. Today, without overstatement, it is reassuring to think that deposits of oil, and especially natural gas, have been discovered in

the Grand-Bassam sector, east of Abidjan. In this country, where, "If you plant a matchstick, you have a tree a year later," as one diplomat puts it, the opening of the frontiers, by allowing movement of men and capital, has been one of the growth factors. But it would have been impossible except for the stability of the regime; that has really been threatened only once, in 1978, when there was a rebellion of the Betes in the underpopulated West. The often vaunted "wisdom" of President Houphouet-Boigny has been measured by his ability to still resentment by offering potential opponents a place within a particularly open system, composed of prudent ethnic proportions, even if the Baloua -- the head of state's own ethnic group -- have kept the greater part of the feast for themselves. In Ivory Coast, formerly the rather poor, if not despised, relation in a colonial empire, black Africa is finally getting even, by taking its seat at the top end of the table.

It is exhibiting a hearty appetite there, ranging from the daily bread -- 136,000 tons of wheat are imported for that purpose -- to a sometimes immoderate use of the profits of growth. In that case, why the moroseness that broke through at last in conversation, after the enumeration of the dazzling successes of one of the continent's most stable regimes? Why the slight reservations, the low-toned, involuntary "but," in spite of everything? Could it be that Ivorians are not sure of their own triumph? Might they, after all, have the feeling that in their country the cart has perhaps been put before the horse?

[30 Jan 80 p 9]

Easy Money

[Text] Korhogo -- "At the request of government authorities, and in the national interest, our clients are requested to avoid any waste in electricity consumption." Reading the notice that awaits him in his room at the Mont Korhogo Hotel, the visitor cannot help but think of the lamp standards illuminating, over a distance of 3 kilometers, the road from the nearby airport, which, however, is still without night landing facilities. Like all the rest, this city of 60,000 inhabitants has a "president's house," a spacious residence reserved for the head of state, hence unused most of the time. At the hospital, which is being remodeled, and whose management, in the interests of greater strictness, has been entrusted to a lieutenant colonel, nine French doctors, including a psychiatrist, are working. In the secondary schools, the number of French teachers has been about 80 since the start of the school year.

"Austerity and strictness," headlines FRATERNITE-MATIN, referring to the mid-November adoption of a budget extension of 27 billion CFA francs. At Yamoussoukro, the village where President Houphouet-Boigny was born in 1905, and of which he has made the Versailles of his presidency, the marbles came from Italy by air. The splendid College of Public Works, which opened its doors in October 1979, is to receive 1,500 students and 130 permanent teachers, preferably graduates of French technical colleges. For their

children, a "French primary school" has been built, where instruction will be given by primary teachers from France. Spacious houses have been provided for the little community of teachers who have come to swell the ranks of the tens of teachers already appointed to the two magnificent pilot secondary schools built for the Ivorians.

Intended to satisfy a justifiable desire for pride, these educational institutions are endowed with sports facilities -- tennis courts, two swimming pools, of which one is an indoor pool, and an all-purpose gymnasium -- and include a 1,300-seat auditorium, music and ceramics studios, photography laboratories, as well as a centrally air conditioned building housing chemistry and natural science laboratories. Each language laboratory, as a brochure points out, is equipped with a control desk and 25 booths with tape recorder and video control, which enables the instructor to transmit "at will a program on tape or film, and to communicate with the whole class or monitor students individually."

Nothing is impossible in Ivory Coast. The approximately 50,000 inhabitants of Yamoussoukro, pride of the regime, soon to be linked to Abidjan by a real freeway, have over 10,000 street lights, or more than the 1.2 million inhabitants of Abidjan have. A spacious two-story "guest residence," completed in January 1977 for President Giscard d'Estaing's visit, has in front of it ornamental lakes with illuminated fountains, reflecting on the marbles of the vast esplanade, the walls, and the flights of steps. In preparation for a visit by King Hassan II, which was cancelled, it was further embellished by a summer house with a gilded cupola.

The entrance to the palace of the president of the republic, a much more stately structure, is flanked by two gilded rams and overlooks a vast stretch of water inhabited by a score of crocodiles that are fed by keepers every afternoon. The ram and the crocodile are President Houphouet-Boigny's talismans.

A Few Blunders

"One of these days, we shall succeed in doing as well as the whites," an Ivorian told us, summing up sarcastically the "philosophy" behind this national showcase. "So long as you had not been here, there would have been something in my actions that you would not have understood," President Houphouet-Boigny, for his part, had told his French counterpart in receiving him at Yamoussoukro.

The high ranking Ivorian official in Abidjan cannot help being dumbfounded by the regime's achievements. The son of a shepherd or a small planter, shifted 30 years later into air conditioned prosperity (residence, limousine, office), he sends his children to French schools, goes to Europe once or twice a year, buys his clothes from a designer with a French label, and computes the advantages brought him by his "modest" business card, with one eye at the same time on those enjoyed by his superior -- a minister or

-- who shares the dividends on his own success quite generously. At the receptions given in Korhogo by Mr Coulibaly, the vice president of the Assembly, and the ranking personality in the North, the champagne flows freely and the food is delivered -- by air -- by the Ivoire International Hotel in Abidjan.

As for the visitor, he can just be glad to be able to get out his Paris checkbook or an international credit card to pay the exorbitant bills presented him. Nothing is too fine or too costly. Caviar, foie gras and smoked salmon, not to mention lettuce and curly endive from France, are featured on the menus of any restaurant worthy the name.

President Houphouet-Boigny had the wisdom to prefer development of the country's agricultural potential to the dream of too rapid industrailization. In the process, a few blunders were committed. As the North, which is Sahelian, was in danger of lagging behind, the government became involved in the least profitable operation it has sponsored, in introducing sugar cane there. The five projects in the regions of Ferkessedougou and Katiola cost an average of 55 billion CFA francs each. "The boiler manufacturers swindled you!" a European diplomat told some crestfallen Ivorians. Not only was the initial investment twice what it should have been, but the cost price is more than double the world market price. The appearance of a microclimate resulting from the clearance of the forest to make room for the sugar cane plantations promoted the appearance of a parasitic moth which caused the yields to decline.

In 1979, SODESUCRE [Company for the Development of Sugar Cane Plantations, and the Industrialization and Marketing of Sugar], a state company which administers these projects, had to subsidize production in the amount of 15 billion CFA francs. The government is obliged to revise the goal of 300,000 tons of sugar that it had set itself: present production reaches about 100,000 tons a year, and four additional projects have had to be abandoned. As the cost price is the same as the sale price on the local market, there is now talk of "mothballing" two refineries. It is also proposed to bring a little order into the administration. For personnel transportation at Ferke 2, the management feels obliged to call on Korhogo's leading citizens, who rent it buses at 500 francs a day, exclusive of maintenance costs and gasoline. Also, only 17 of the 50 houses planned for foreign experts have been built, maintaining the lucrative profits of investors, who have built private houses for leasing in the new "residential district" of the city.

Cost of Foreign Experts

Acute concern with avoiding "cut-rate development" has led the Ministry of Economy, Finance, and Planning into supporting 180 foreign experts, which costs it, according to one of the people involved, the impressive but carefully calculated sum of 3,200 francs in our money every day for each one of them. Moreover, having -- by far -- exceeded its "quota" seven years ago, Ivory Coast now finds itself having to finance 80 percent of the

salaries of the French cooperants. While waiting for housing, tens of them are at present living in big Abidjan hotels at a cost of 200 to 300 francs a day.

Where is all this money to be found? It comes to a large extent from the enormous profits realized by the state on lumber, cocoa, and coffee. To take the last commodity as an example, when the world market price is at 1,200 francs the quintal, the planter received the sum of 250 francs. The difference goes into a stabilization fund, which sets prices and finances development projects within the framework of five-year plans. Foreign loans and an influx of foreign private capital complement the self-financing effort. As a result, the country has been able to provide itself with a good road system, schools permitting a high rate of school attendance (77 percent), and a second deep water port, the one at San Pedro. In the North, drought resistant crops such as cotton have successfully been introduced, and in the Center, oil palm as well as para rubber plant. Rice growing has been developed. The diversification of commerical crops corresponds to the dual concerns of avoiding over-dependence on the fluctuating market prices of cocoa and coffee (two-thirds of the revenues on exports), and mitigating exhaustion of the forests.

Still, for two years at least, the fine machine has seemed to be getting out of order. In February 1977, a World Bank report based on a survey completed 20 months earlier set off the alarm. It indicated that over five-year periods since 1960, "The trend has been toward a declining growth rate." The distribution of income has remained uneven, despite the redistribution still assured in Africa by interdependence in the families and villages: in 1973-1974, the poorest 40 percent of the population took in 19.7 percent of the overall income, as compared to 51.6 percent to the richest 20 percent.

Large Foreign Debt

Payment on the foreign debt, by comparison to exports, rose from 6 percent in 1969 to 11 percent in 1975. More recent estimates indicate that this rate rose to 14.9 percent in 1978 and reached 18 percent in 1979. This increase is partially due to the fact that Ivory Coast is accepting more and more commercial loans. In 1971-1974, so far as investments are concerned, the public sector share amounted to a little over 60 percent of the total, compared to 40 percent immediately after independence. "While the private sector has continued to transfer its resources to foreign countries, the public sector has been forced to borrow more and more from foreign countries to reduce the gap between investments and savings," the World Bank also noted in 1977.

This trend has become stronger since then. Because it offers less choice or inspires less confidence, Ivory Coast no longer taps private foreign capital: in 1978, the latter represented only 1 percent of total investments. In 1979, Abidjan drew even more upon public monies and foreign loans to finance its investments: foreign financing reached a record 34

percent of the total. Harsher credit conditions explain why, in 1982, foreign debt payments could reach the danger level of 25 percent of exports, even when the state plans, as is the case for 1980, to limit public investment to 50 billion CFA francs, at the cost of giving up all new projects and suspending the financing of some that have already been started. In 1979, public investments had again risen to 250 billion CFA francs.

Even though the balance of trade and the balance of payments remain slightly positive -- according to the estimates for 1979 -- the growing burden of debt repayment is a mortgage on the future. In the first 15 years, again according to the World Bank, not only did growth not solve all problems, but "In fact, it has created others peculiar to itself." A European economist, closely involved in the country's development, gives a disturbing diagnosis: "Ivorians have had too easy a life. The country is rich on loans. It has not been established that the development model adopted is the right one, even though corrective measures still appear possible."

In this connection, multiple examples could be given. Prestige investments, like Yamoussoukro, require large operating budgets. Uncontrolled urbanization -- affecting almost one-third of the population -- has become a brake on development. Young peasants are flocking to the cities, whereas the health of the country depends increasingly on the vitality of agriculture, in which mostly Voltans are working. Over the medium range, Ivorians are likely to pay dearly for their neglect of reforestation, and also, but to a lesser degree, for inadequate renewal of coffee and cocoa plants. "Ivorianization" of cadre remains modest, and as the World Bank comments, after having long promoted the development of the economy, "The vast influx of European and African foreign workers is giving rise to tensions that suggest that a limit of tolerance and effectiveness has been reached."

Ivory Coast's enrichment still apparently promises it a few good years more, but at a time of assessment, some doubts are emerging as to how long this prosperity will last.

[31 Jan 80 p 7]

Limitations of the "Model"

[Text] Abidjan -- "When I arrived here in 1965, I wondered how they could keep the system going. They are keeping it going, and I am still wondering how," a foreign expert sums up. Everyone around the table nods. The champagne is cool. Outside, on the stroke of noon, the heat is unbearable. "A country that really is developing," says a French diplomat categorically. The hypothesis of a dangerous flight forward is not mentioned. The Ivorian experience is "deuced fascinating."

In September, after 3 months' rest in Geneva, President Houphouet-Boigny returned, sprightlier than ever, thus putting an end to all the "gossip" -- as one of his co-workers put it -- that was rife in Abidjan during his

absence. Upon arrival, he attended a football match, in the grandstand of the huge Abidjan stadium, to let it be seen that the 74 years he admits to have had no ill effects whatever on his form. Sources at the presidential palace informed us, however, that he had had two cardiac incidents, one before going to Switzerland and another at Lake Leman. But the subject is taboo. Since the cabinet reshuffle in 1977 -- when the "Old Man" broke with several of the strong personalities in his entourage -- all important files have been winding up on his desk.

The man who "made Ivory Coast" has no designated successor.

Now, the files on the winter of 1979 are weighty ones. A new five-year plan (1980-1985) has to be financed. Some clear-cutting in the budget is inevitable. Privately, many high ranking officials are beginning to ask themselves questions. Should Yamoussoukro, "the citadel in the desert," have been built? Created for one exceptional man, the regime lacks institutional safeguards. The Democratic Party of Ivory Coast [PDCI], the sole party, is merely a transmission line; the press is virtually the mouthpiece of the government; the Parliament is a recording body. A PDCI congress is planned for October 1980, or 2 months before the legislative and presidential elections. The time for assessment has come, even though one wonders whether the regime, counting on its international credit and its natural advantages, will not merely postpone the day of reckoning once more, while at the same time advocating austerity.

"The Man of Dialog"

Mr Houphouet-Boigny, whose authority remains indisputable and is based on the preeminence that has always been his -- in 1945 he was elected to the Constitutional Assembly, and the following year founded the African Democratic Rally -- is above all "the man of dialog." With the ordinary people, for whom he still reserves a portion of his time. With the former parent state, so closely associated with the administration of Ivorian development. But with his more "sensitive" partners, too: the Republic of South Africa, which has the privilege of refuelling its commercial flights in Abidjan at night; Israel, whose fruit juices await you in the hotels. In the interior, the head of state has succeeded in avoiding repression, and to him is due the absence of political prisoners in Ivory Coast. To tell the truth, there is not even any opposition, as the regime skillfully "wins over" those who challenge it openly, and offers them a chance to "redeem themselves." The system remains astonishingly "open," despite increasing concentration of power in the hands of one man, a Balou chief and son of a chief, whom "the popular mind places above the law," as a religious explained to us. Last year, President Houphouet-Boigny made a gift to the state of all his plantations on the fringes of Yamoussoukro.

In Ivory Coast, the slightest reservation about trends in the regime or some political decision always arouses the astonishment of the authorities. The hospitality shown Bokassa I stirred up some uneasiness, especially among the officers? The response is that the Ivorian president's gesture,

as part of the "humanitarian tradition" of Africa, "cannot have shocked anyone."

With persistent rain threatening the harvest, and with cocoa, exposed to fermentation, in all likelihood not keeping very well, should they have withdrawn a month ago from a saturated world market, to try to drive the price up again? The retort is that Ivory Coast "did not withdraw" from it, since it is not part of it. Abidjan is just "not selling" for the moment. A nice distinction!

In the same way, official spokesmen attribute to "rumor" and "malevolence" the talk circulating last summer about the creation of a prime ministerial position to lighten the president's task. Once and for all be it said, the president is "still sprightly," and in any case, should a vacancy occur at the head of the state, the constitution provides that the interim period be covered by the president of the National Assembly, in this instance Philippe Yace until the end of the current presidential term of office. Anything else is "nothing but speculation." So President Houphouet-Boigny could put off without explanation, until a later time, the "message to the nation" announced on his return from Geneva in September: it would be inappropriate to see in it any indication of difficulty due to the presence of Bokassa I, business problems, or the inescapable problem of the succession.

Nevertheless, in a speech made on 7 December, the Ivorian head of state will indulge in raising expectations of a constitutional reform permitting the election by universal suffrage of a vice president -- as the running mate of a president -- with responsibility for contingency covering of a presidential interim.

Abidjan: Success and Problem

Abidjan, a visible proof of success, also sums up the problem created for the country by hasty urbanization dependent on agricultural and forestry products. The great city of French-speaking western Africa is not experiencing the tensions and criminal activity observed, for example, in Kinshasa or Nairobi, where armed robbery is a daily occurrence. But the Ivorian capital, more and more congested and ostentatious, does give rise to some anxieties. At present the feasibility of constructing an underground rail system is under study. The project will probably come to nothing because of the government's financial difficulties. Whereas, on the "Plateau," in the middle of the city, one finds oneself in an ultra-modern metropolitan environment, in the working class districts of Adjame or Treichville, milling crowds jostle in the early morning for the few buses to get them to work. About one-third of the Ivory Coast population is made up of city dwellers, and young peasants have just one dream: "going up to Abidjan."

Despite recent efforts to check this movement, everything has helped to encourage the flight from the countryside. After an educational television broadcast, in a little northern village, the barefoot little schoolchildren are fascinated and ready to leave. The remarkable extension of the road system has a similar effect. "When I have enough savings," a young Korhogo weaver told us, "I shall go to Abidjan."

But the shock awaiting newcomers is a brutal one. The city, the reward for education, also means loneliness. In this connection, a sociologist told us "A family, or a group, will invest all it has in a child's education. He is told 'You have to succeed.' A heavy responsibility is laid upon him. Traditionally, the group, not the individual, must succeed. The individual was a wizard, a man of evil. But in urban life, a sense of self has to be developed, a sense of competition and of freedom. For the young Ivorian, this task is a fearsome one. In the event of failure, he does not dare go back to the village. Perhaps, to give himself courage, he will turn to some source of relief: -- drugs -- marihuana -- or joining one of the syncretistic sects that abound at the moment. He will behave 'like a devil' -- his own expression: that is to say, behave badly against his own will. This is a schizoid handling of guilt: one's own fault's are not recognized. Often, because of extraordinary adaptive ability, he will resolve the dilemma through recourse to mimesis: he will mimic the white man, the model imposed on him."

Sometimes the pressure is unbearable: suicide has made its appearance among young people. In Korhogo, several cases occur every week, and the hospital has appointed a psychiatrist. On the coast, the Harrist sect has between 100,000 and 150,000 members. Its message, borrowed from a Liberian priest who visited Ivory Coast in 1915, is of some interest. "It teaches," according to the sociologist quoted above, "that God created the whites first and the blacks later. In other words, that blacks are less gifted than whites." In such a cultural context, it is hard to determine whether the multiplication of Koranic schools in the islamized North corresponds to a need for secularization or not.

Despite the slowdown in economic activity and an atmosphere such as prevails at the end of a reign, there is no indication that the Ivorian regime's options will need to be reconsidered soon.

Though political stability has fostered the country's economic growth, the increased wealth of Ivorians -- uneven but fairly general -- has for its part helped to calm political tensions within a state that includes around 60 ethnies, and whose public life has been dominated, since independence, by the strong Balou ethnie from the Center. The crucial economic role of foreign citizens -- Voltan agricultural workers, European foremen and engineers, Lebanese tradesmen -- who make up [illegible]d of the population, is also an ambiguous one: certainly their p[illegible]s a source of friction, but it also causes Ivorians to close ranks and si[illegible]ce their internal disputes. In the longer run, it is on the social level that the fate of the

Ivorian experience could turn: in answer to those who express satisfaction over the "fortunate coexistence of tradition and modernity," the opponents of "runaway development" reply that that illusion is a dangerous one.

The decision-making processes are complicated by the slowness in "Ivorianization" of cadre. "In high places, a white advisor is always more readily listened to than a high ranking black official," a European diplomat assures us. This situation, 20 years after independence, helps to arouse the frustration of men who feel they are being "short-circuited" and often give up taking the initiative. In addition, the standard of living of the Europeans cannot help but give rise to bitterness: with equal qualifications, the salary of a foreign teacher may be three times that of an Ivorian. Added to that are the dissatisfactions of intellectuals, whose number has increased through the educational efforts of the last 20 years.

The inordinate splendors of Yamoussoukro are in defiance to the situation of the rural people. Burning the candle at both ends, Mr Houphouet-Boigny's country is certainly not faithful to the image of wisdom and level-headedness that he intends to present. At a time when the first clouds are beginning to obstruct the horizon, one may wonder about the limitations of the example that Ivory Coast hopes to set. Some Ivorians are doing so. Certainly, they are not unaware that even though everything is not perfect in their own country, things are often much worse among their neighbors. Moreover, many Africans of merit have turned to Abidjan, which undoubtedly does constitute a pole of attraction for the region. But reasons for pride run the risk of becoming, in the course of time, matters for consolation.

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DECLINE OF COCONUT CULTIVATION REPORTED

Fresco Plantations Abandoned

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 30 Jan 80 p 16

[Article by Hien Solo]

[Text] Fresco Subprefecture farmers have abandoned 130.17 hectares of coconut palms, already fully planted by SODEPALM [Company for the Development and Exploitation of Oil Palm] and placed at their disposition.

The parcels involved are in Zegban (52.47 hectares distributed among 35 people) and Bolo-Sud (77.7 hectares allotted to 223 village planters). These two parcels have reverted to fallow land because they were carelessly abandoned. Most of the plants have been crowded out by weeds or destroyed by elephants.

A third parcel consisting of 287.53 hectares in Vrom, older since it was planted in 1973 and still producing, is in danger of suffering the same fate unless more energetic measures are undertaken to encourage the allottees to maintain and work it. Vrom produces palms with well-filled crowns despite the lack of maintenance, but the coconuts that drop from the trees are not gathered. Only 9 out of 50 planters regularly care for their parcels and pick the coconuts. A little farther on from Vrom and near the village of Kotrohou, 6.78 hectares of village plantations (new designation), established by three planters are doing very well.

Critical Situation

The plantation situation has become so critical that SODEPALM general manager Konan N'Dri Albert, at the head of a delegation, went to Fresco to ascertain the facts on the spot and meet with the farmers involved for the purpose of finding a solution.

At the end of his tour of the plantations, a work session brought together all parties to the matter in the conference room of the subprefecture. This for the first time brought together 56 planters, including 9 women,

out of 308 allottees, a record attendance since work and information sessions of this kind have been held for their benefit and by notification.

This meeting enabled the general manager of SODEPALM to remind them of the terms under which these parcels financed by the state were allotted to the planters. It should be pointed out that the distribution of the Zegban and Bolo-Sud parcels was not an easy job for either the local administration or the technical guidance agents. In fact, since the coconut palms were planted with the aid of the farmers, the distribution of parcels had to be made on the basis of a prorating of the number of workdays actually provided by each of them.

Among other difficulties encountered during the distribution of the parcels, we may note that the farmers wanted to reorganize themselves in terms of family ties and that some had absolutely refused to accept the parcels offered them under the pretext that they were too big. They wanted only half as much or even only a third. The biggest parcel per person amounted to 3.3 hectares while others, on the other hand, were simply turned down.

Since these obstacles were not overcome, each planter was left free to choose the parcel he could work. But today, these plantations present a most disturbing picture.

Not Very Convincing Arguments

Elsewhere, the "village coconut palm plantation" operation was engaged in with enthusiasm. Here, pessimism is the rule. Now what could explain this disaffection, this loss of interest on the part of Fresco planters? During the meeting, 10 of them spoke up, giving what in their opinion were the real reasons that drove them to discouragement.

Their statement shows that the sporadic damage caused by elephants and their inability to deal with that problem because they are without any means of protection are behind the almost general abandonment of the plantations. Another reason was advanced for Bolo-Sud: The parcels are too small (223 allottees for 77.7 hectares). The opposite situation was noted for Zegban (52.47 hectares for 35 people).

These not very convincing arguments have been rejected by the local authorities and technical guidance agents on the basis of reports and evidence. These two groups have sufficiently combined their efforts to get the farmers of Fresco to adopt the path that leads to progress. Nevertheless, the population has remained impervious to their advice.

On this point, the spokesman for the staff of the subprefecture had this to say: "Don't view the inhabitants of Fresco as you would those of other areas because it was not so long ago that they settled on the mainland."

Thus he laid emphasis on a transformation of the attitudes of the farmers, a long-drawn-out affair. It should also be noted that PALMINDUSTRIE [expansion unknown] manages the commercial plantations in the same area. These produce and provide the material for a local factory.

After a number of different opinions were voiced, in agreement with the local authorities, the general manager of SODEPALM made the following decisions in the interest of all concerned:

Vrom Must Be Saved

First, to save Vrom, a deadline of 2 months (from 16 January to 31 March 1980) was granted the planters to restore their parcels. At the end of that period, plantations that have not been kept up will be repossessed and redistributed to those who can work them effectively.

Second, at Bolo-Sud, that part of the parcel for which there are still plans will be redistributed on the same basis.

Third, for Zegban, the land will be available to anyone who wants to devote himself to the cultivation of coconut palms. The terms of allotment will be those that are in effect for other village planters.

Plantation Production in Decline

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 6 Feb 80 p 15

[Text] Village plantation palm production for the 1978-1979 season was estimated at 255,000 tons of clusters. It actually amounted to only about 135,000 tons. The production deviation was calculated at 110,300 tons.

In fact, when we talk of village plantation production, we must always bear in mind that this involves only that portion of the crop which PALMINDUSTRIE actually buys from the planters.

Therefore, these figures exclude local consumption of one's own production as well as free market sales which are by no means negligible as we shall see.

There is, in fact, a big difference in the way production is evaluated, dependent on whether directly consumable products (palms, etc.) or non-directly consumable products (coffee, cacao, Para rubber, etc.) are involved, and it is quite obvious that in the second case marketed volumes can be likened to production volumes, which is not true of the first case.

Moreover, in comparing commercial with village oil-palm plantations, the percentages in terms of achievement of objectives should be similar if we do not take into account agronomic factors (climate, parasites, etc.). But in fact, they are different and the divergence is produced by the intervention of human factors having to do with the planters, factors the

technical guidance company cannot control because it cannot substitute itself for the planters.

There are several things that explain this noticeable drop in production:

1. Low Volume of Rain

In most cases, oil-palm production can be linked with the water shortage observed 27 months before the harvest.

For the first 1978-1979 season, we must take into account the water shortage extending from June 1976 to May 1977. There was a volume of 567 mm for all agroindustrial sectors, /which is considerable.../ [in boldface].

As a result, for 1978-1979 the IRHO [Institute for Research on Edible Oils and Oleaginous Products] predicted extremely low production volumes for most of the plantations, with those located on tertiary sand being the most affected because they are more closely associated with the water shortage than those located on the old bed.

It would appear that the water shortage alone could be chiefly responsible for the decline in village plantation production. It is possible that, for some sectors particularly affected by the water shortage, the percentage gap in production to be recouped amounts to 30 percent of the estimates.

While this is a likely assumption, it is, of course, impossible to verify it with any precision.

On the basis of this and taking into account the PNA [expansion unknown] estimates for 1978-1979 (188,000 tons), the corresponding production loss may, nevertheless, be estimated at /50,000 tons/ [in boldface].

2. Tree Height and Abandoned Plantations

Palms planted between 1960 and 1965 have grown, reaching heights of 6.7 and even 9 to 10 meters.

Village youths no longer climb with the help of belts made of lianas or palm-leaf ribs. Wooden or bamboo ladders placed against the trunks do not permit them to go and pick clusters growing higher than 6 or 7 meters.

As a result, the clusters rot on the trees. More and more plantations are abandoned and even cut down after being sold to the bangui [meaning as yet undetermined] cutters who have begun to produce veritable massacres through the establishment of bangui extraction plants, in particular in Dabou.

These abandoned and cut-down plantations at present represent about 5 percent of the village plantation inheritance, resulting in a reduction of the land area being harvested and consequently of the volume of clusters

delivered to the collection points and the oilworks.

Enclosed Plantations

These are plantations that can neither be easily maintained nor harvested because they have no access trails.

A recent inventory confirms the fact that 413 km of new trails would have to be opened. A program has been planned since 1973 but, due to lack of financing, we have been able to undertake very little for the plantations that were established between 1973 and 1976.

This has just been added to the CDC (Commonwealth Development Corporation, representing 6,000 hectares of palm plantations in 1977 and 1978) program which provides for 387 km of new trails.

These two programs for the opening of new trails represent a total of 800 km.

For the present SODEPALM is coping as quickly as it can with the material means available to it, with the trails being opened in fits and starts where priority demands, whether within the CDC program or in the other sectors.

It is estimated that, if these trails were open and in a state of constant use, production could be substantially increased.

The Destructions

In addition to these factors, there are the destructions, either by the planters due to pure and simple abandonment or for various reasons (voluntary clearing to plant bangui, sale of land for construction sites, etc.) or by third parties. Here, village communities or the administration are involved through the parceling of towns, the opening of trails, roads, the construction of public institutions, private firms or wild animals (elephants), etc.

We must stress the fact that these destructions have seriously increased over the past 6 months, particularly in the area surrounding Abidjan. An impressive number of abandonments and destructions have been observed, occurring very rapidly and at a more and more accelerated rate.

The production estimates made on the basis of planted land area will therefore have to be lowered to account for these factors and such a revision should be made each year from now on.

During the past 12 years, the land covered by palm and coconut palm plantations has been extended at an accelerated rate, thus creating vast media favorable to the development of certain diseases and parasites which until then were nonexistent or lived in balance with the natural environment.

On palm plantations "fusariose" [fusarium wilt] attacks the trees, at first individually, then ravaging larger and larger areas, rendering parts of the plantation unproductive.

"Coelaenomenodera," a leaf parasite, destroys the leaves and with them their role in the production of nuts, causing a reduction in the number and weight of clusters produced by diseased palms.

Fusariose and coelaenomenodera are at present responsible for crop losses of from 3 to 4 percent.

On coconut palm plantations it is "aceria" [acarus], an acarian insect which is at present the most harmful parasite. It destroys the young plant tissues of the nuts causing a higher percentage of premature fall of nuts or preventing the normal development of the nuts which can lose up to 25 percent of their copra.

Planters complain that, while the purchase prices of all tools, fertilizers and consumer goods are rising, the prices of their kilogram of clusters at 10 francs and coconuts at 7 francs have been frozen for 3 and 7 years respectively.

At the same time, they see the prices of other crops rising every year. Growers of these crops are even granted bonuses for replanting and size of crop, while the palm planters' so-called "incentive" bonus has been eliminated.

All this not only has a negative effect on the cultivation of palms and coconut palms because it "demotivates" the farmers who engage in it, but also risks magnifying certain factors leading to a decline, like the sales of clusters and nuts on free markets, the sale of palms in order to extract bangui, etc.

Regarding free market sales, we should point out that the volume of oil-palm clusters processed and consumed locally or sold on neighboring markets falls into this category, although it is deceptive to specifically cite the percentage figure for that portion of production thus diverted.

11,466
CSO: 4400

U.S. LOAN AGREEMENT FOR WHEAT PURCHASES SIGNED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 7 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] The first consignment of US wheat aid is expected to arrive in Kenya next month. The second consignment will follow in May.

The total is 40,800 metric tons, enough for about two to three months.

This was confirmed yesterday when Vice-President Mwai Kibaki and the US Ambassador Wilbert Le Melle signed a 40-year agreement for the $6.9 million loan the US has given Kenya for buying the wheat.

And the ambassador said his country would soon grant Kenya a further $10 million for the purchase of grain. The US was concerned about the current food problem in Kenya, he said.

He said the aid followed the recent talks between President Moi and President Carter in Washington DC.

Mr. Kibaki explained that Kenya traditionally was not a food importing country, as she normally grew enough for home consumption and at times for export.

But the US aid, he said, would not only help the present food situation but also help Kenya catch up in the growing of wheat and in looking into the price it paid farmers.

It would similarly give farmers a chance to adjust to and catch up with the demand for wheat in the country, he said.

No mention was made of maize at yesterday's signing of the agreement. President Moi, on his return from Washington, had announced in Nairobi that Kenya would receive maize from the US.

Agriculture Minister James Osogo earlier announced that Kenya would receive "white maize" by the end of this month, but he did not say where this was coming from.

The Americans said yesterday that the loan to purchase wheat was only one part of an overall US assistance programme which would total $106.3 million in both development and military aid up to the fiscal year ending in September.

As part of the development assistance package, they said: "This agreement allows the Cereals and Produce Board to remit the proceeds from the sale of wheat to the Treasury."

CSO: 4420

BUNGOMA FACING FLOUR, WHEAT SHORTAGE

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 5 Mar 80 p 28

[Text]

AN acute shortage of wheat flour and rice has hit Bungoma Town.

Some of the retailers have blamed the shortage on a conspiracy between wheat millers and wholesellers whose shops and stores were located at Lwakhakha, Chepkube, Malaba, Busia and other markets close to the border.

According to a Bungoma shopkeeper interviewed by a KNA reporter, millers at Eldoret sold to businessmen whose shops were located close to the Kenya-Uganda border because they were always ready to pay "a bit more".

He alleged that millers usually sold very little flour to suppliers from Bungoma Town and other market centres located far from the border.

Most of the retailers interviewed called on Government authorities to investigate the distribution of wheat flour and to supervise the sale of wheat flour, rice and milk in wholesale and retail shops to ensure that the commodities reached all consumers.

—KNA

CSO: 4420

IFAD LOAN AGREEMENT SIGNED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 5 Mar 80 p 3

[Text]

KENYA and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) have signed a loan agreement for the equivalent of $17 million to help finance agricultural development in 15 districts.

The agreement was signed by the Permanent Representative of Kenya to FAO, George Kiuri Mburathi, and by IFAD President Abdelmuhsin M. Al-Sudeary.

The loan will help increase the production of milk, meat, maize, beans cotton, and other crops.

The project aims at achieving self-sufficiency in agricultural products, increasing farm output in the small farm sector, improving income distribution and expanding employment opportunities. Some 38,000 smallholders are expected to benefit from the project.

Special emphasis will be laid on development of livestock, through health, breeding and husbandry services.

Other project components include storage, transportation and marketing facilities, building of access roads, provision of domestic water supplies, strengthening of co-operatives, credit and extension services, small irrigation schemes and soil conservation.

The project will be implemented over a period of five and a half years, with a total cost of $91.7 million.

CSO: 4420

MP'S APPOINTED TO SESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 6 Mar 80 p 4

[Text]

PARLIAMENT yesterday approved the appointment of 20 MPs into the Sessional Committee whose chairman will be the Leader of Government Business, Mr. Mwai Kibaki.

Announcing the appointments in the House, Mr. Kibaki said the standing orders provided that the committee should comprise of not less than five and no more than 20 MPs.

"Because of this limitation, specified in our standing order number 145, we have not been able to appoint as many MPs as the House would have wished to see. We have many other Parliamentary committees where many of you will participate," Mr. Kibaki said.

During a brief debate on the formation of the committee, an Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development, Mr. Nahashon Njuno, said MPs who had never served on any parliamentary committee should be considered for appointments to other committees.

An Assistant Minister for Livestock Development, Mr. Martin Shikuku, commended the Government for appointing MPs from all parts of the country into the committee.

Those in the committee are: Messrs. Mwai Kibaki, James Osogo, Stanley Oloitipitip, Robert Ouko, Nicholas Biwott, Munyua Waiyaki, Mwacharo Kubo, Charles Murgor, Jackson Kalweo, Zablon Olang', Njuguna Wagara, Hamed Said, P.N. Munyasia, Krishna Gautama, S.K. Ngeny, Mrs. Grace Onyango, James Onamu, M.S. Abdi, Mark Bosire and Omar Cheka.

CSO: 4420

MP'S 'HAVE IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY' IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 5 Mar 80 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] President Moi's exhortation yesterday to Members of Parliament to put election politicking behind them and concentrate on the nation's problems and how to solve them has set the scene for the business of Kenya's Fourth Parliament. There are hard times ahead and Mr. Moi did not in any way attempt to minimise the tasks before the legislature and its members in what he termed the need to devise ways to effect the "practical management of our affairs."

The MPs, representing millions of people, are part and parcel of the Government's efforts to grapple with complex economic problems and they are expected to make a meaningful contribution to the work of the National Assembly so that the country and her leaders can seek to minimise the effects of some of the things that the President outlined--external forces in the shape of huge increases in oil prices; lower prices for our primary and other exports; and the rising cost of essential imports.

We are in the proverbial cleft stick. We must cut our coat according to our cloth; that is why the Government sees it as an essential priority to draw up and submit to Parliament a detailed Sessional Paper on the whole spectrum of the economic situation facing us, including future prospects. This will, as the President said, enable MPs to participate fully in the formulation of policies and measures necessary to ensure our continued social and economic development.

Members of the public will have taken due note of Mr. Moi's comments on MPs' performance in the House. "Parliament must not be regarded as a place for long debates and speeches, except when such debates or speeches are necessary...Idle talk for its own sake is a luxury which we cannot afford." This is not to say that MPs--59 of whom are sitting in the Assembly for the first time--must put the lid on their utterances. "Short and sweet" should be their motto, with particular attention to the needs and aspirations of their constituents and total attention to the national interest.

The people of this country will not thrive on empty rhetoric. They want action to provide them with increased employment opportunities, more land, better education facilities, expanded and more efficient health services, better transportation systems and decent homes. This needs planning on a national basis so that "projects are undertaken in a co-ordinated manner and implemented through phased programmes." This Government, indeed no Government, can undertake to implement all planned development programmes simultaneously throughout the country. But this does not mean a full stop in some areas while work is being done in others. The Government, keeping its fingers crossed, is hoping to be able to continue carrying out some development activity in each area. While MPs will hope for, and work towards, particular attention to their constituencies, it is inevitable that national constraints, including available resources and manpower, will shift the emphasis from location and district to the wider plane.

The new session looks like being a busy one. Mr. Moi's programme of business includes a National Environment Enhancement and Management Bill; an amendment to the Water Act; a new Fisheries Act; an amendment to the law concerning wildlife conservation; plans to establish a second university; amendments to the Rent Restriction Act; and legislation to register estate agents.

All these are matters relating to the life and welfare of our people. The proposed legislative measures will enable the Government to do what it can to ameliorate the life of its people.

In the deliberations on these changes, MPs, old hands and newcomers alike, have an important role to play. They have been accorded the title "Honourable" but they must, by word and action, earn and retain the respect that goes with it.

CSO: 4420

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS HELD LIABLE FOR STRIKE DAMAGE

Njonjo's Statement

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 6 Mar 80 p 1

[Excerpt]

NAIROBI University students are going to have to pay for the damage they caused in last week's riots.

And Attorney-General Charles Njonjo said yesterday that the students would not be re-instated until they pay-up.

Mr. Njonjo went one stage further. He warned that if students repeated their violent behavior, the Government may consider forcing them to pay for their education as well.

He said he was shocked that students at the country's highest institution of learning should behave like "hired mercenaries" bent on destroying everything the Government was trying to do for them.

The students were very much aware that they were maintained at the university with taxpayers' money and should therefore, behave well, he added.

"If you are well fed I do not see why you should go rioting in the streets of Nairobi. I believe the students' behavior cannot be encouraged by wananchi."

Students on the university's main campus rioted last Tuesday in protest at what they described as bad food and old crockery in their canteen. They smashed crockery and other property worth thousands of shillings.

The next day the students took to the streets, stoning cars, smashing a number of showroom windows along University Way and Koinange Street.

The same day the Government closed the university and students were sent home.

Students at Kenyatta Hospital School of Medicine, Kabete campus and Kenyatta University College were not involved in the riots and are continuing their studies.

The university's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Joseph Mungai, said yesterday they were still assessing the cost of damage at the main campus.

Commission To Examine Issues Urged

Naibori DAILY NATION in English 7 Mar 80 p 4

[Excerpt]

RECENT unrest at the University of Nairobi's main campus could not be dismissed as the actions of a few naughty students, Wiŋam MP **Peter Anyumba** told the House.

"We are the parents of these students. We have a duty to unearth the truth and expose all the happenings at the campus," said Mr. Anyumba.

It was important that a commission be formed to look into the university's affairs.

"The commission would examine issues relating to conditions of service of the staff, catering facilities, the academic standards of lecturers, finances of the institution and the management," said the MP.

Mr. Anyumba pointed out that it would be unfair to heap the blame on all students. "Some students were not even on the campus when rioting took place and when we think of punishing these innocent ones, we create ever-lasting bitterness in them," he warned.

CSO: 4420

'SOME PROGRESS' MADE IN NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 6 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] The National Environment Secretariat should be strengthened for greater development and conservation of natural resources.

This was said yesterday by the Vice-President and Minister for Finance, Mr. Mwai Kibaki, when he launched a document on World Conservation Strategy at Nairobi's Kenyatta Conference Centre.

The document is compiled by the UN Environment Programme, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and the World Wildlife Fund.

It focuses attention on three basic requirements for environment management and conservation.

The Vice-President congratulated the three world bodies for compiling the document which, he said, would prove invaluable for the rational management of living resources for sustainable development.

The document emphasises the maintenance of essential ecological processes and life, the preservation of genetic diversity and the ensuring of sustainable utilisation of species and ecosystems.

The document has been launched in more than 30 countries.

Mr. Kibaki told the gathering that Kenya had made some progress in a number of critical areas in the conservation of natural resources such as soil, water, forestry and wildlife.

"But we are very far from the cardinal goal of resource management, namely sustainable development," he added.

He noted that over the past few years the Secretariat, in conjunction with the UNEP, UNDP, had been carrying out a major study on inter-relationship between environment and development.

"The objective of the endeavour is to find ways and means of ensuring proper conservation and to ensure that measures are taken at all planning and decision-making levels so that development may proceed in a sustained manner, Mr. Kibaki said.

CSO: 4420

MERU, NYERI FACING FUEL SHORTAGE

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 7 Mar 80 p 1

[Text] Petrol stations in Meru and Nyeri are facing a severe fuel shortage, according to reports reaching the NATION yesterday.

Nyeri and Meru petrol stations were reported to be dry and cars from these towns were served at Nanyuki, a Nanyuki petrol station manager reported.

No comment was available from the oil companies contacted in Nairobi yesterday.

One petrol station operator said the oil companies had earlier claimed that the pipeline was not working effectively but this had proved to be untrue.

"I have up to 20 cars queuing here for petrol," said the Nanyuki petrol station manager. "Regular customers get only Sh. 50 worth of super petrol but the casual customers get only Sh. 20 worth of petrol."

He claimed that Karatina in Nyeri was also experiencing shortage. "The situation is critical," he said.

The shortage has been going on for the past three weeks but the situation has deteriorated since last Monday, claimed another operator.

One operator said the oil companies had imported a great deal of crude oil which was waiting on the high seas just outside Mombasa. He said they were awaiting Government approval of higher prices before it was brought and refined in Kenya.

According to a Kenya News Agency report from Nyeri, Government vehicles have been rendered immobile due to the shortage at the Government supplies branch.

CSO: 4420

SOLAR POWER PUMP INTRODUCED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 5 Mar 80 p 5

[Text] A solar power pump is being introduced in Kenya as an alternate source for rural power supply.

The water pumping system was demonstrated in Nairobi yesterday. Many people witnessed how solar energy could heat photovoltaic cells to be converted into electricity.

According to Mr. J.L.M. Goodwin, managing director of Animatics Ltd.--marketing agents for the pump--the system can pump 3,000 gallons of water per hour. It will cost about Sh.35,000 in Kenya.

Among Government officials present at the demonstration were the Permanent Secretary in the Energy Ministry, Mr. D. Mwiraria, and Assistant Minister for Natural Resources and Environment, Mr. Philip Leakey, Mr. Moses Mukowe of the Agriculture Ministry and Mr. Simon Mbugua, Permanent Secretary in the Transport and Communications Ministry.

The pump made by Solar Electric International, will be commercially available in Kenya from April.

According to Dr. S.V. Allison, the system can produce enough electric current to run a motor. However, he said, it should not be confused with a thermal process as no heat transfer is involved.

The system can also charge a special type of battery during the day. It can also be used for television and radio at night, he added. The pump will be available in varying sizes for large scale irrigation and small village electrification.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

DROUGHT THREATENS TURKANA--Turkana West MP Peter Ejore has appealed to the Government to assist Turkana people overcome the water crisis. He said continued drought was threatening to paralyse all essential services in the district. Mr. Ejore, an Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development, told a Press conference in his office today that the drought was threatening the lives of people and livestock. He said although the Government and churches had sent famine relief supplies and water, this was not enough. He appealed to charitable organisations for more assistance. [Text] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 6 Mar 80 p 10]

EXPATRIATES 'DRAWING FOREIGN EXCHANGE'--More than 15,000 expatriates are still employed in jobs which could be done by Kenyans if they were qualified. Labour Minister Elijah Mwangale said yesterday that "this was a real problem since some expatriates were draining the country of large amounts of very badly needed foreign exchange." The Minister's remarks were contained in a speech delivered to the Ministry's training officers and managers during a seminar in Kisumu. [Excerpt] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 7 Mar 80 p 5]

CSO: 4420

VICE PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM TOUR

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 7 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] Vice President Bennie Warner has returned to the capital following a two-week development tour of South Eastern Liberia as special Representative of the President.

Accompanied by Assistant Information Minister Alhaji Kromah, Assistant Minister Edward Yapapazua of Action for Development and Progress, and the Ministry of Education Senior Supervisor for South Eastern Liberia, Mr. Arthur Nebo, the Vice President visited towns and villages in Maryland and Sinoe counties and the territories of Sasstown and Kru Coast.

Many of the areas visited involved several hours of walking, while other remote places were reached through travelling by canoe along rivers and the Atlantic ocean.

According to Jerry Varpilah, the LINA reporter, who travelled with the Vice-President, citizens in both the isolated regions and areas accessible by vehicles, indicated overwhelming appreciation that the government was still interested in their development.

This commitment was emphasized by Vice President Warner every where he stopped, but was quick to appeal to the people to take initiatives, and use whatever resources they had to improved their own conditions while waiting for government's assistance.

Throughout his tour, Mr. Warner spoke of the importance of roads as fundamental to the development goal of Liberia.

He also concluded that decentralization will have to take place in the various regions in a practical way for actual development to reach all parts of the country.

He said the delivery system of services by various ministries and agencies of government must be considerably improved and coordinated, because the rural areas have suffered from inefficiency in this area.

CSO: 4420

MINISTER CLARIFIES ANNUAL REPORT

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 7 Mar 80 p 5

[Text] Public Works Minister Gabriel Tucker has disclosed that the Japanese Government has given the Liberian Government $20 million worth of heavy duty equipments and another $10 million from the World Bank so as to help the country carry out its program of building feeder roads and potential agricultural developments in the rural areas of the country.

The Minister made this disclosure on Wednesday after he was surmon to appear before the Senate Standing Committee on Public Works headed by Senator Taylor E. Mayor to clarify some points that had been made in the Minister's last year Annual Report.

Minister Tucker noted that some of the counties to be given priority are Lofa, Nimba, Bong, Grand Gedeh, and Grand Bassa Counties. Bassa he said already is privileged with 260 miles of feeder roads while work in other counties are either underway or nearing completion.

Asked as to why his Ministry had deferred already planned projects, the Minister told the Public Works Committee that the projects that were deferred were "small projects" and had to be deferred because of man power at the time, and added quickly that all projects that were deferred are "resume and nearing completion."

Minister Tucker said that the Ministry had to defer what he called "small projects" to take up big projects at the time, including finishing part of Hotel Africa and the new Foreign Ministry.

One of the problems again he noted was that after the April 14 episode, 10 professional engineers who were all expatriates panicked and left the country, which the Minister noted, was a set back for Public Works, but also added that the problem is not a major one now that all of their projects are underway and some nearing completion.

CSO: 4420

NIMBA COUNTY DEMONSTRATES SUPPORT FOR TWP, PRESIDENT

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 7 Mar 80 pp 1, 5

[Text] More than 10,000 people of Nimba County turned out at the Commissioner's Compound in Tappita last Monday in a mammoth demonstration, pledging their unflinching support and loyalty to the True Whig Party.

The people came from all parts of the county, carrying banners with different slogans in support of TWP and dancing to the tune of indigenous Nimba music as they marched to the Commissioner's Compound to present a statement of loyalty and appreciation to the National Standard Bearer who was then winding up his six-day official visit to that County.

In their statement read by Representative S. Gizay Kpan, the people said they owe the TWP a debt of gratitude which was not payable in dollars, but could only be paid in "loyalty, support and faithful service to the Party."

The Partisans hailed the Standard Bearer's rural transformation programme which, they said, was producing visible results. They noted that through the programme most villages were now linked by roads, thereby strengthening the citizens economically.

They denounced the Progressive People's Party as a group of irresponsible people who were going around to disunify the people. They then discounted the rumours as false and baseless that the Nimba Partisans have deflected to the PPP.

In accepting their statement, the Party Standard Bearer, Dr. William R. Tolbert, Jr., told the Partisans that the actions and deeds of the people of Nimba County had convinced him that they were patriotic, loyal, law-abiding, and above genuine Partisans of the TWP.

He said he had also observed, since his arrival in the County, that the people were united and committed to work harder for the improvement and the strengthening of the Party.

Flanked by the Party National Chairman E. Reginald Townsend, First National Vice Chairman Jackson F. Doe, Nimba Superientendet Fulton Dunbar and other

officials of the Party, the Standard Bearer told the Partisans to do away with all forms of tribalism, sectionalism and prochialism, and urged them to be selfless and remain united against anything that might tend to divide them.

He described as "dim and foolish" those who sit abroad and criticize the genuine efforts of the government and the Party without making any concrete contribution to the upliftment of the country.

The Standard Bearer told the Partisans to adhere strictly to the principle of the Party which, he said, included equal opportunity for all, respect for human rights, promotion of peace and the fostering of free enterprise democratic system of government.

Very Successful

Speaking in Sacleapea on the last day of his visit to Nimba, the President described his visit as successful, rewarding and enlightening. He said he considered his visit a period of Stock-taking and commended Superintendent Dunbar, County officials and citizens of the County for their industriousness, love, loyalty and confidence in his administration and the True Whig Party.

He congratulated the youths of Sacleapea who had earlier presented him a position statement, pledging their loyalty, support and confidence in this administration and the Party.

The President told them he was happy to be informed of their efforts to help develop their chiefdom by constructing public toilets, a power house and a clinic at a cost of $50,000.

He thanked the youths and gave a personal contribution of $2,000 towards the projects.

CSO: 4420

GUNDO'S DEATH, BLOCKADE OF SOME AREAS OF MONROVIA RELATED

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 7 Mar 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] Did the LPMC driver found dead two days ago met his death after falling on a home-made bomb which he was supposedly distributing on Monday night when a group of persons had gathered near the Executive Mansion at mid-night to make a "petition" to the government?

The LPMC driver was William Borbor Gundo and according to Ministry of Justice source, he was one of those rounding up his mid-night colleagues to carry out their designs that night.

The Ministry of Justice has ordered an autopsy and a coroner's inquest. Meanwhile, Justice Minister Joseph Chesson has revealed that a raid on the home of the dead driver netted homemade bombs and several molotov cocktails.

The Minister of Justice admitted that the illegal assembly at midnight and the movement of Gundo together with the blockade of certain areas of the city including the New Kru Town area, Gardnersville area and other strategic points during the night of Monday last are all related; however, no arrests have been made yet. "We are investigating because we want to be sure who are the leaders".

The Minister said there were attempts that night to blow up the gasoline storage tank at the Telecommunication Building, but the security drove away the suspects before they could achieve their objectives.

The Minister declared that there is vivid evidence that this was a plan to harrass the people of the country, but government's patience is running out.

When told that ringleader Baccus Matthews told his followers that they intend to "protect their rights at any price", he replied, "that's all right, but let them try."

Mr. Matthews also said that they brought the cabinet out and will they do so again whenever they find it necessary. The Justice Minister said, "let them try once more."

The Minister was then asked what will they do when each time they arrest someone for breaking the law the President takes them out of prison, he replied, "My friend, the President is a Minister of God and out of mercy for these people he has been doing this with the hope that these people would change their ways of doing things, but it looks like this emboldens them, and I think that the time has come now for us to close ranks and stop pampering these people: or thinking that they have a mind of even changing. I do not think they are penitent in any way whatsover; they are just trying to fool and befuddle the people...."

The Minister of Justice declared that the situation is getting completely out of hand and "we cannot permit this any longer." We cannot have the people living on their finger tips and if they say it is going to be hell, O. K., we are prepared for that hell."

It may be recalled that a group of people identified as members of the Progressive People's Party and led by Gabriel Mathews, gathered at Camp Johnson Road at mid night last Monday, demanding that they wanted to put their "grievances" across to the government, when they fully knew that the government does not operate at mid night and most especially when the President was on a visit to Nimba County at that time.

Police was later called in to disperse them, but they refused to leave until 5 a. m. the next day, saying that they were afraid to leave immediately because thereafter their leaders would be arrested. But no arrest was made.

Later, Mathews told his supporters at their headquarters on Gurley Street that if any of his member is arrested after this incident, "Hell will break loose."

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

CAPTAIN, ENGINEER FACING TRIAL--The alleged "crooked" Captain and Chief Engineer of the Liberian Registered Super Tanker "Salem" are expected to arrive in Monrovia this Morning at 11 o'clock to face trial for their alleged involvement in the sinking of the ship of the coast of Senegal last January. Captain Dimitrios Georgoulis and his Pakistani chief engineer, allegedly played a major role in the sinking of the Liberian registered tanker and clandestine sale of its cargo of 194,000 tons of Kuwaiti Oil to racist South Africa. The extradition case which began early last month in the Senegalese capital Dakar, was won by Liberia after a hard and fortified legal battle ensued between the Liberian Government and Lawyers for the defendant--Liberia. The two men are to face charges on three counts: falsifications of documents by the captain; the theft and sale of the cargo of crude oil and the destruction of the Liberian registered vessel. [Text] [Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 7 Mar 80 pp 1, 2]

CSO: 4420

SPEECHES BY ASSEMBLY LEADER, PRIME MINISTER REPORTED

Speech by Assembly President

Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 12 Jan 80 p 4

[Text of speech by president of People's National Assembly]

[Text] Not every day does Ambohitsorohitra Palace see such a crowd. In fact, it is exactly 1 year since we last met here.

The days, weeks and months have gone by, and here it is New Year's and we're meeting here again, united in the joy of seeing each other once more, because it was God's will that we should live to see the new year.

Yes, when we recall the faces we saw here last year we realize that some are missing. It reminds us that human beings are the lambs of God, for it is He who gives life and also He who takes it away.

Several days ago we said good-bye to the year 1979. We together are now making the initial entry on the new blank page of 1980.

This is why, Mr President, we are here today, in this sacred edifice. We have come here in a spirit of friendship, and you have respectfully opened the door to us.

And this is why I stand here before you, as spokesman for our brothers and sisters--your children and your friends--in the arduous struggle that the nation is waging.

If I may say at this juncture:

"I am not the father but the son; not the elder son but the younger. I have been given the opportunity to speak, however, and I have taken that opportunity."

Yes, Mr President, we are here--we who come from different institutions--elected representatives, government officials and ordinary citizens who hold responsible positions in their respective sectors. We are a minority

who are able to substitute for the majority--for the millions of Malagasy citizens who would have liked to take a direct part in this ceremony.

Guided by our love and commanded by our affection for you, we have come to bring you our respectful best wishes on this memorable day.

We therefore extend to you our greetings. The old year has ended well, and we wish you a Happy New Year.

We congratulate you on being alive and well; the dangers, the perils of the world have shunned you. God has preserved the Malagasy people, who are committed to you and still have you with them.

May divine protection and the blessing of our ancestors, Mr President, be with you always in your efforts to preserve our nation and give you the strength and clarity of mind to guide it in its revolutionary march to the objective--the new society for which it yearns.

May God grant you a long life, so that you may look after the Malagasy people who love you. May no danger, may no peril, hinder your efforts.

May you be able to remain with your people for a long time; may your people retain their wisdom; and may your fellow countrymen esteem you, so that your enemies will be unable to disparage you.

May you always derive satisfaction from everything you do.

And Mme Ratsiraka--the star married to the sun, the star married to the moon: may God grant you his blessing in order that you may encourage, entertain and enlighten your husband and thereby enable him to find happiness at his fireside.

Mr President of the Republic:

The past 2 weeks of our lives have a special significance, for it appears fate has willed that many holidays be celebrated during that period amid the joy and hope that a nation such as ours deserves to experience.

On 21 December the Malagasy people voted massively in favor of the Red Book, the Charter of the Malagasy Socialist Revolution; adopted the Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar [RDM]; and placed its trust in you, Mr President, to lead that revolution.

It was on 30 December 1975 that the Democratic Republic of Madagascar--the RDM--was officially created as the framework for the new governmental organization. One year later to the day, the National Front for the Defense of the Revolution was created to integrate the progressive forces.

On 4 June, the anniversary of your accession to the highest office in the land, you solemnly swore to satisfy the hunger, and the hope, that the Malagasy people have retained in their hearts for decades--goals for the attainment of which they have endured all hardships.

Then came 25 December, birthday of the Holy Infant of the carpenter of Bethlehem--of Him who as you reminded us in Havana was the first to dare to say that all men are brothers and have equal rights and equal dignity.

Each of these dates has special significance, for each marks a new chapter in our national history. Although everyone is familiar with these dates, they are not officially observed in the same way as New Year's.

And while New Year's is a "turning point"--for it is both the end and the beginning of a year--it is also an occasion for reviewing the past and thinking of the future, so that we may derive therefrom the strength to face the future. We recall in particular your message to the nation on 31 December.

The message apprised the people of your desire to deal impartially--and to have the nation understand--the national realities and the decisions which the Revolutionary Government, and you yourself, have taken in order to carry out the revolution.

We have also perceived on various occasions that you want us to understand that nothing comes easy and the revolution cannot be accomplished in a day. The revolution does not need Malagasy who are easily discouraged but rather Malagasy who are conscientious and disciplined, who have faith in the objectives of the revolution, and who believe the revolution will be victorious.

We are grateful to you, Mr President, for your counsel is important. You may be sure that it has not fallen on deaf ears.

Mr President of the Republic:

The people quite properly realize that whatever the source of any auxiliary resources, only the production resulting from the effort of each and every one of us Malagasy will ensure the equitable and just division of the national wealth in accordance with the labor of each.

The socialism we are constructing is not designed to distribute poverty and misery but to incorporate a new modus vivendi into the process of national production, generate development, and provide for a method of distribution of the products with the aim of eradicating injustice and inequality among our citizens.

It has seemed, in fact, that a certain apprehension has arisen here and there, born of excessive impatience. The revolution will not be accomplished in a day, as you have so often said, and it is difficult to change a certain type of selfish mentality.

We cannot, however, say that these credulous brothers are entirely at fault, for they have been overwhelmed by demagogy. They have sometimes even allowed themselves to be swept away by illusions.

This coming 26 June the Malagasy people will celebrate 10 years of independence and 5 years of the people's march under the banner of the socialist revolution.

We are therefore approaching an important moment, and it is accordingly proper for us to intensify still further the efforts already made, by giving substantially more power to the people in the administrative and economic domains.

A great deal has been accomplished as a result of your effort. Much remains to be done, and it will require considerably more effort--and a changed attitude--on everyone's part. This will not be easy and cannot be accomplished on an individual basis. A people who are aware; elected representatives who are mature; and leaders who have poise: this is what the nation needs henceforth in order to carry out the revolutionary decisions.

Mr President:

With reference to your position, we are aware of your determination that this final struggle of the Malagasy people shall be successful--and on our part, our determination to search our conscience, make good resolutions and pledge not to betray the oath we have taken.

Indeed, it will all be merely a verbal dream, a paper paradise, if by mischance each individual citizen refuses to do his duty and evades his responsibilities, because of his cowardice or his selfishness, and in this way willfully destroys the revolution.

May the cowardly regain their courage and the selfish give a thought to the future, for those who would willfully place obstacles in the way of the revolution by means of various maneuvers will be judged by history. The people's struggle will not turn back.

Here, because I am a deputy and (as most elected representatives) was elected from a region inhabited by peasants, I take the liberty of addressing myself to those who until now have been a privileged group and from whom the revolutionary government has taken nothing.

It has been said here that following the salary increase for government employees a number of malcontents appeared among those who had already received a great deal.

So I say to these persons: Mind what you are doing. Don't be too greedy, willing to give only a very little to others, or history will deal harshly with you.

In speaking of the joint responsibilities of the people, we must make reference to the decentralized collectivities. Decentralization through the medium of the collectivities is, in effect, an important aspect of democratization, which is the process of giving power to the people.

The decentralized collectivities can be said to have now gained experience, despite some confusion that prevailed for a time because of the fact that some elected officials for various reasons took their time carrying out their duties. Similarly, the central government--either because it had forgotten that these decentralized collectivities exist or because of a lack of confidence--was slow to grant them autonomy.

All these errors have gradually been corrected, however, largely because the necessary funds are beginning to be made available to the decentralized collectivities, in accordance with the budget passed by the People's National Assembly at its most recent session.

We believe, Mr President, that the time has come to strengthen the people's participation in the administration of national affairs and in the production effort being made in the decentralized collectivities.

This will require not only an assumption of responsibility on the part of the decentralized collectivities, but also an appropriate modesty on the part of the central government. In this way, hundreds of persons will share the responsibilities and duties attendant on the search for solutions to the problems of everyday life.

If this should come to pass--accompanied by mutual trust, cooperation, solidarity and an acceptance of individual responsibility--I believe, Mr President, that the central government's work will be made easier and that it will be able to concentrate on the affairs of the nation as a whole. In this way you, in particular, will be able to make tours of the rural areas, Mr President. Those of us who live in remote regions and are poorly served by roads would also like to meet you--even though we know you are always near us, as you reaffirmed in your message of last 31 December.

We believe that if these problems are solved, and if the obstacles that separate you from us--who have placed our trust in you--are overcome by a communion of ideas in spite of those who wish to profit from your power or your trust, this nation which you lead will accomplish miracles.

Everything I have said pertains to everyone who is present here. We have spoken these words, however, because we know that they are the words of the entire Malagasy people. And if I have spoken to you in a forthright manner, Mr President, no offense to you is intended, for it is you who hold power, to quote Andrianampoinimerina.

Mr President of the Republic:

We have placed our trust in you to lead us in strengthening national unity and in building a new society. Although it is like a dream, we have complete confidence that we shall reach our goal.

This is the act of faith that fills the hearts of all your comrades in the struggle, without dissent and without selfishness.

We promise you that beginning today we shall strive to break with those days of uncertainty.

I should therefore like to ask my comrades: Are we, or are we not, carrying out this revolution? Among those present here, some have already taken the sacred oath. They and I, Mr President, yesterday took up the sword and today will not betray the fortress.

Long live the president!

Long live the Democratic Republic of Madagascar!

Long live Madagasikara tsy mandohalika!

Speech by Prime Minister

Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 12 Jan 80 p 4

[Text of speech by prime minister]

[Text] Mr President, the Malagasy people have now lived through 4 years of struggle toward victory under your leadership.

Five years ago, when the Malagasy people were demoralized, national unity shattered, and the partisans of the people's cause disheartened, there were those among our citizens who believed that you were the only hope for socialist construction in Madagascar.

If we therefore weigh and measure impartially the various stages through which the nation has passed during that period, it becomes clear that the Malagasy people were not mistaken in placing their confidence in you, for at the present time Madagascar has its own identity in the concert of nations and President Didier Ratsiraka has become the guide--and the pride--of revolutionary Africa.

Indeed, President Didier Ratsiraka is a mighty warrior who does not choose his field of battle. Not content to wage an arduous struggle within our country, he has extended that struggle to Africa and to the entire world.

We can therefore say without qualification that in the area of foreign policy Madagascar has excelled under your leadership.

Is it not true, Mr President--you who are the guide and the pride of our country--that you are the spring that engendered the river, the river that created the lake, the lake that engendered the torrent?

This is why I consider it an honor to represent here all of your close associates on the Supreme Council of the Revolution, and the ministers of the government, to assure you of our gratitude for this unendurable struggle that you are waging in behalf of the development of Madagascar.

Long live President Didier Ratsiraka, eminent and most capable leader!

The Malagasy people are today becoming aware of the correctness of the principles which you have set forth in the Red Book, and all our fellow countrymen of the entire island are striving to understand them better. Moreover, many countries want to understand the Malagasy Socialist Revolution and are placing orders with us for the Red Book and the Constitution of the RDM.

This is tangible proof, Mr President, that the socialism chosen by the Malagasy people is gaining ground.

If all this has come to pass, Mr President, it is thanks to your ardent patriotism, to the love which you bear the Malagasy people.

The Malagasy Democratic Republic, Mr President, has a strong foundation, for it is built on the love of the Malagasy people.

The march of the Malagasy people toward socialism can therefore truly be likened to a wild flower unfolding its petals.

It is also this love of the people that has moved Mme Ratsiraka to leave Ambohitsorohitra Palace so frequently and crisscross the nation to encourage her sisters throughout the island, for maternal love is important to us Malagasy.

You, Madame, have often left your hearthside to extend your hand and resolve the problems of Malagasy mothers.

Our method of celebrating the International Year of the Child--under your chairmanship--has been ideal. You have endured your fatigue without complaint so that you might honor with your presence the creation of numerous creches throughout the nation.

You have, Madame, achieved a great step forward in behalf of the liberation of the Malagasy woman.

Moreover, the people have appraised all these revolutionary actions at their true value.

An example of socialist behavior was demonstrated by Mme Ratsiraka in crisscrossing all the faritany [meaning unknown], especially since this proved that under socialism it is not just children of good family who matter but all of the children of the nation.

Madagascar's future is assured, for the welfare of the coming generations is being attended to assiduously.

The year 1979 has given the lie to the notion of the "weaker sex," for we calculate that you have traveled, in the company of your close associates, a total of 12,272 kilometers.

Mr President and Mme Ratsiraka, we wish simply to assure you that love is repaid by love, and since we are not here to engage in an oratorical contest but merely as one representative of those who stand here before you, we are emboldened to say that the work of national reconstruction which you have accomplished will live forever in the hearts of the Malagasy people.

We are grateful to you.

Under your enlightened and wise leadership, the people are regaining confidence in their future. And we have confirmed, throughout the island, the efforts the people are accomplishing in behalf of their economic and social development.

Great steps forward have been made in these two sectors, and we have seen that the revolution continues to progress despite all difficulties.

There are still some laggards, however, and it is apparent that corrections remain to be made, particularly in respect to attitudes toward the revolution.

We find, in fact, that exacerbated selfishness, exploitation and a tendency to become easily discouraged still persist among some of our fellow countrymen.

At the same time, the traitors--the enemies of the people--continue their activities in an effort to sabotage the revolution.

We recall once again the words of the Red Book: "The new revolutionary ethics must permeate the everyday life of all of society (for the revolution is a daily struggle) on the individual, family, civic and professional levels as well as on the national level--the Malagasy level. This presupposes in particular a revolution in points of view--a coherence between doctrine and reality, between words and deeds...."

One of the characteristics of the revolution we are waging--a characteristic that demonstrates the wisdom of the Malagasy people--was the massive victory of 21 December 1975, when the entire Malagasy people took a joint oath to build a new society in which justice and equality will prevail.

If it is therefore by mutual agreement that we have instituted this revolution, should we not be stimulated by the problems which we shall confront in destroying the old structures and building the new ones?

We seem to forget that during the transitional period--that is to say, during the period that intervenes between our choice of the revolution and the eradication of social classes--the people must face serious problems.

It is, in fact, obvious that the new structures cannot be immediately productive.

Can anyone really believe that rice fields of 20 hectares per firaisana [meaning unknown] will yield crops immediately? Or that the growing of vanilla, coffee, soybeans and peanuts--which has recently been encouraged by the Revolutionary Government--will produce crops immediately, inasmuch as for 2 years our nation has been ravaged by drought?

Do we realize that it takes at least 2 years to build a factory? And that all these factories built by the Revolutionary Government cannot be productive immediately?

Having an integrated policy does not make it possible to perform miracles.

"We have only one choice," the Red Book says: "to live or to disappear. We have chosen to live--to live in independence, freedom, justice and peace, whatever the price we must pay."

Do we think that these words are mere plagiarisms?

Doesn't the Malagasy nation resemble a young person who--even though the home of mother and father is comfortable and secure--wants to start a family and needs time to develop his or her personality?

And have we forgotten that only those who want to be men will sleep in the desert?

It is necessary first of all to know the different stages through which one must pass, in order not to become discouraged along the way.

In view of all these considerations, Mr President, we believe it appropriate to cite here--so that all our fellow countrymen may know--the realities that you have perceived in the course of your trips abroad. There are revolutionary brothers in the world who have opted for socialism and whose people--because of shortages--are faced with serious problems in the development of new structures.

You have told us that consumers stand in lines up to 6 or 7 kilometers long in front of the stores in these countries, just to obtain a little food.

But when the chief of state passes by, all these consumers acclaim him with one voice in order to encourage him, for they know their president will never betray them and will do everything to protect his people.

Although the Malagasy socialist revolution needs no lesson from anyone, the reaction of these consumers deserves to be pondered during this period of national revolution.

We are reaffirming here, Mr President, our complete confidence in your leadership--confidence that you will lead the Malagasy people to final victory, thanks to the struggle for liberation which you have waged since 1972, to your ardent patriotism, and to your solution of all those problems that had afflicted us.

We are sure that our revered president, Didier Ratsiraka, has never betrayed and will never betray the Malagasy people, and that he deserves the confidence of the entire nation.

On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, on the occasion of Christmas, and in particular on the occasion of the New Year, it is a pleasure and an honor for us to present to your family, and to you, our salutations and our best wishes.

We wish you a long life, and we hope you will long remain at the helm of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar so that the victory of socialism in Madagascar may be ensured.

We also wish you good health, infallible intelligence, and unflagging courage so that you may continue the progress made in the construction of a society of justice and equity.

We extend very special greetings to Mme Ratsiraka, who typifies the activities of the new Malagasy woman in the ranks of the revolution.

You have set an example of courage, determination and, above all, selflessness to all the women of the island, to whom you have proved that socialism can help them achieve freedom in all spheres of activity.

Everyone from the earth to the sky now knows that Malagasy women are not inferior to the women of other countries, notably in the domain of revolutionary struggle.

We wish you good health, Madame, and enduring vigor to continue the struggle that you have undertaken for the liberation of the women of the entire island and above all, your efforts in behalf of our children, the guarantors of Madagascar's future.

We have only one president: Didier Ratsiraka. As we begin this 5th year of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, we promise you, Mr President:

That we shall always honor the watchwords you have given us for the victory of the revolution.

That we shall always respectfully follow the counsel you give us, especially as concerns the dialogue necessary in order to resolve all problems.

That we shall not neglect the cause of the proletarian people who produce and the workers--the mainspring of the Revolution, as you have defined it in the Red Book.

In conclusion, we again pledge to you, Mr President, that we shall never betray the oath which all of us have made before history, and that we shall defend the revolution and its gains.

Long live President Didier Ratsiraka, eminent leader, guide and pride of the Malagasy people!

Long live Madagasikara tsy mandohalika!

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CSO: 4400

RISING IMPORT, DIMINISHING EXPORT FIGURES FOR 1979

Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 7, 8 Jan 80

[7 Jan 80 pp 1, 2]

> [Text] One year has slipped by and another is just starting. A fleeting, retrospective glance at the main national events of 1979, which we now publish, calls to mind and not without some emotion—"A year already!"--the achievements, the official (or private) statements, all the joys and sorrows that marked this past year. Good or bad. Complete or incomplete. Efficient or otherwise. The happenings, the measures, the declarations, the achievements in question form a unique composite whole, tending to the accomplishment of a single objective: the development of the nation.

We have chosen to set the whole topic of Madagascar's 1979 trade in a separate section, that is, both imports and exports. Among the comments that we gleaned on the day after the speech in which President Didier Ratsiraka courageously and realistically avowed that the nation was currently undergoing a crisis, one of the people interviewed hit the nail on the head. He said, "The crisis does not stem only from abroad, not only from the inflation bred by the international situation; it springs also from ourselves, from our lack of dedication to our work, from our inadequate production." The speaker went on to mention bananas, lychees, mangoes and other tropical fruit which were (or could be) major sources of foreign exchange for us. He referred to the beautiful "Golden" apples which even 4 or 5 years ago, were admired by tourists hailing from countries known for their apple output, and which have now disappeared from our markets to be replaced by greenish, misshapen ("voa torona") apples, as they are described. Beef, which was also a source of foreign exchange, can now only be found in scant quantities, sufficient to meet local demand. And that is what is going on in a country in which the bovine population is greater than that of human beings.

All this is cause for reflection. And when one studies the following statistics, which could have been doubled or tripled if only ... it is easy to understand the need for more awareness, for awakening consciences, for more motivation by a system which will interest people, will interest our peasants, who, as "Boky Mena" says and we know only too well, constitute the great majority of our population. Certainly, there were natural catastrophes, but certain regions were never affected by these. That would have been an opportunity for them to replace the former, all in perfect harmony. And with the higher interests of the nation in mind.

The figures issued by the National Institute for Statistics and Economic Research (INSRE) show a deterioration in Madagascar's balance of trade for the first 6 months of 1979 in relation to the same period of 1978: 81.5 for 1979 as against 96.2 for 1978, percentage wise Malagasy imports increased only 5 percent in value while exports declined by 11 percent. This fall in imports (equivalent to 5 billion Malagasy francs) derived in part from the drop in coffee prices which, despite increased sales of 6,800 tons, caused a collapse of export returns amounting to 1,600 million Malagasy francs. Moreover, vanilla bean sales abroad were down 3,700 million Malagasy francs, from a total of 920 tons for the first 6 months of 1978 as compared with 200 tons for the same period in 1979.

France remains Madagascar's principal supplier (32.5 percent of the market), followed by the Federal Republic of Germany (10 percent), the People's Republic of China (8.5 percent as compared with 4.6 percent for the first semester of 1978), Japan (7.6 percent as against 4.3 percent for the corresponding period of 1978), and Iraq (7.3 percent as against 5.4 percent the previous year). However, France's share in Malagasy imports continued to decline over the period under review (to 33.8 percent at the close of 1978).

As a result of the drop in Madagascar's exports to the United States of America (57 percent less during the period in question) France once again became the country's major customer (19.5 percent as compared with 18 per , followed by Indonesia (17 percent as against the earlier 12 per and the United States (16 percent instead of 33 percent). The balance of trade between France and Madagascar was largely favorable to France. By the end of June 1979, the situation was identical to that of a year earlier: French exports to Madagascar were worth twice as much as total French imports from the island.

[8 Jan 80 p 2]

[Text] In order to give the reader some notion of the volume of our foreign trade, here are some representative figures. Unfortunately, since the last issue--number 42--of the monthly statistical bulletin published by the Central Bank, the only publication besides INSRE's

that handles this type of data, does not contain the 1979 statistics, we find ourselves obliged to refer to those of 1978.

For that year, Malagasy exports to the European Community of Nine exceeded the 31,136 million Malagasy franc level, and of that total, 20 billion Malagasy francs' worth went to France. The United States took almost 21,879 million Malagasy francs of Madagascar's exports, followed by Indonesia (11,950 million Mal. frs.), Spain (4,195 million Mal. frs.), Japan (3,211 million Mal. frs.), Reunion (2,447 million Mal. frs.) and Eastern Europe (2,909 Mal. frs.).

Insofar as our imports were concerned, needless to say our principal suppliers were the Common Market countries, which together provided us with more than 57,057 million Mal. frs., followed by the People's Republic of China (6,215 million Mal. frs.), Saudi Arabia (5,774 million Mal. frs.), United Arab Emirates (3,459 million Mal. frs.), the United States (3,459 million Mal. frs.), and Eastern Europe (2,290 million Mal. frs.).

This naturally represents only the principal countries with which Madagascar maintains significant and regular trade relations. Speaking of the overall figures, in 1978 Madagascar exported a total of 87,214 million Mal. frs. worth of products and imported 99,632 million Mal. frs. in value.

Reflecting our statement concerning the lack of interest in work during the past few years, the following figures suffice to indicate what is meant. Whereas commercial agricultural production in 1972 included 309,000 tons of paddy, in 1978 the total had declined to 225,000 tons. Meanwhile, coffee remained relatively stationary (57,500 tons as compared with 68,500 tons). Peanuts, in contrast, fell from 30,915 tons to 20,500 tons, and tobacco from 5,688 tons to 3,259 tons. Pepper dropped from 2,300 to 2,000 tons; Pois du cap (?chick peas) went from 23,600 tons to 6,000 tons; sisal from 21,400 to 15,919 tons; and processed vanilla from 1,700 tons to 250 tons. Fortunately, industrial sugar cane rose to 1,074,421 tons in 1978 as compared with 969,716 tons in 1972 and the same trend was observed with cloves, production of which climbed to 12,000 tons as against 6,500 tons in the earlier period, and cotton, too, which expanded to 33,000 tons from its former level of 23,000 tons.

In short, during this period of crisis which spread through all the different sectors of activity, as well as into every home, and to which President Didier Ratsiraka referred during his first speech of the year, the only cure is to produce more and to limit superfluous spending.

Our exports for the most part are natural products. Therefore, as we said above, if we worked harder, we would have derived greater profit. Since we do not have all the figures for 1979 available, we refer only to those for 1978, merely to provide some idea of what exports by products might represent.

In 1978, coffee brought in 36,590 million Mal. frs., while sugar provided 1,434 million Mal. frs.; vanilla receipts were 8,645 million Mal. frs.; cloves another 17,222 million Mal. frs.; graphite a total of 1,277 million Mal. frs. and pois du cap, finally, 1,160 million Mal. frs. Even a small country like Reunion bought fuel oil from us, in addition to pois du cap, shrimps, dried beans and corn for a total of 2 million Mal. frs. Our meat exports to the Common Market countries are not listed in detail in the INSRE publications but are they insignificant? Yet we know that European demand in this sector has not yet been fully met. And there is good reason for it.

At all events, this list serves merely as an indication. We might include our tropical fruits on it except that we export so few. Yet we should diversify our exports. In view of the inflation which currently gallops at an increasing speed, worldwide, Madagascar should, in the course of this year, begin working as hard as it can to reduce to a minimum the negative effects of this irreversible international phenomenon which it seems so difficult to throttle.

A. Malagasy Exports by Country of Destination (millions of Mal. frs.)

Country of destination	6 months 1979		6 months 1978		79/78 as a percentage
	Value	Percent	Value	Percent	
France	8,068	19.5	8,375	18.0	- 3.7
Indonesia	7,061	17.1	5,613	12.1	+ 25.8
United States[1]	6,630	16.0	15,365	33.1	- 56.9
Algeria	3,040	7.3	275	0.6	-
FRG	2,453	5.9	3,663	7.9	- 33.0
Spain	2,217	5.4	1,806	3.9	+ 22.8
Japan	2,130	5.1	2,213	4.8	- 3.8
Italy	1,816	4.4	772	1.7	
Hungary	1,660	4.0	1,040	2.2	
Reunion	847	2.0	1,284	2.8	
United Kingdom	451	1.1	1,118	2.4	
Singapore	360	0.9	1,843	4.0	
Total exports	41,331	100.0	46,497	100.0	- 11.1

[1]The decline derives from falls in coffee and vanilla bean.

B. Malagasy Imports by Country of Origin (millions of Mal. frs.)

Country of origin	6 months 1979 Value	6 months 1979 Percent	6 months 1978 Value	6 months 1978 Percent	79/78 as a percentage
France	16,489	32.5	16,368	33.8	+ 0.7
FRG	5,081	10.0	6,953	14.4	- 26.9
PR China	4,336	8.5	2,211	4.6	+ 96.1
Japan	3,842	7.6	2,099	4.3	+ 83.0
Iraq	3,692	7.3	2,627	5.4	+ 40.5
United Arab Emirates	0	0	3,460	7.1	-
Italy	1,972	3.9	2,028	4.2	- 2.8
United States[1]	1,575	3.1	1,683	3.5	- 6.4
Pakistan	1,548	3.0	1,110	2.3	
Ivory Coast	1,286	2.5	249	0.5	
Benelux	1,225	2.4	694	1.4	
United Kingdom	1,192	2.3	778	1.6	
Netherlands	960	1.9	1,147	2.4	
Switzerland	932	1.8	493	1.0	
USSR	627	1.2	443	0.9	
Spain	486	1.0	66	0.1	
Total imports	50,708	100.0	48,359	100.0	+ 4.8

[1]The delivery of a Boeing 747 for Air-Madagascar in March of 1979 (the estimated cost of which was 12 billion Mal. frs.) does not figure in the INSRE statistics for the end of June 1979.

7127
CSO: 4400

ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES SPELLED OUT

Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English 9 Mar 80 p 6

[Editorial: "Supplement Maize Crops"]

[Text]

IN his speech opening the Budget Session of Parliament in Zomba, His Excellency the Life President, Ngwazi Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda said he was not happy with Malawi economy — that it had experienced a bad year, breaking the stretch of buoyancy it had been enjoying since 1971.

That Malawi's economy is in difficulties this year is inevitable. Several circumstances, some beyond the country's control and others of financial mismanagement, combined to thwart the many efforts made by Malawians to reap the usual fruits of their labour.

It is an open secret that developing countries have continually flinched and braced themselves against the ultimate hour the effects of inflation brought about by the oil price hikes which continue to confound national economies would register themselves. The development funds offered by Arabs to developing nations only serve to postpone the economic fiascos they are supposed to offset. And as long as the Arabs continue to raise their oil prices, which they definitely are doing, the pace of development in developing countries is going to be badly affected, retarding overall growth due to inhibitive inflation which will reduce the developing countries' purchasing power.

Another factor beyond Malawi's control which affected this region is the role of the weather. Poor rains have resulted in poor yields of Malawi's staple crop — maize. In fact it is not Malawi's perculiar problem; Kenya has experienced the

effects of poor rains which have affected crop yields, prompting President Moi to undertake official visits to Germany, Britain and the United States of America seeking aid and relief for the critical food situation of that country. As for Malawi, the Life President has asked his people to immediately supplement the poor maize yields by planting potatoes and other root crops.

As the Life President explained that the effects of inflation have taken longer to be felt in Malawi due to the fact that she uses water to generate electricity and that the backbone of her economy is agriculture, by the same token Malawians have taken to heart their wise leader's policies of hard work in the fields in order to be self sufficient in food production. In fact as the Ngwazi spoke to his people on supplementing maize with root crops, those in badly stricken areas had already started doing so — showing the degree of understanding by the average man that self sufficiency had been ingrained as an outlook to life.

On a different level and the result of human error, financial mismanagement either in Government or statutory bodies always has been a contributing factor to ruining a nation's economy. Malawi is no exception. The Life President has said in the recent past that accountability in the handling of finance was important in order to keep the nation's machinery operative. Obviously somewhere along the line this has not been followed through, and as the Ngwazi warned, it is the top executives who are answerable for any inexplicable misappropriation of funds.

It is indeed a privilege for this nation to have as wise a leader as the Life President who always tells it as it is without any equivocation. Where other leaders would have hidden the fact that this country at moment faces an economic slope heading downward in order to maintain a false sense of well-being, the Ngwazi explains to his people, spelling out the facts whose reality spurs them into remedial action.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

CORN FOR NEEDY--His Excellency the Life President, Ngwazi Dr H. Kamuzu Banda, this morning, said that in response to reports which have reached him concerning the suffering of his people in the Southern Region due to a poor crop of maize, the Government is going to provide maize for those drought-stricken areas. The Ngwazi said this in his address to Party leaders drawn from the ten districts of the Southern Region who were especially invited by the Malawi leader to State House in Zomba. Citing the most stricken regions, the Life President enumerated Nsanje/Chikwawa, Mulanje, Machinga, Mangochi, Mwanza and Blantyre as bad cases. The Malawi leader told the Party officials that it saddens him to see his people suffer and as a result he had arranged for maize to be given to those people who need it. The Life President warned that Party officials should not take advantage of their positions and hoard the maize or give it to their friends and relatives; "I want justice and fairness," he said, referring to its distribution. [Excerpt] [Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in English 9 Mar 80 p 1]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

JOINT FRANCO-GERMAN-MALIAN VENTURE--Mali has established a joint venture company, with a Franco-German partner, to negotiate with the intention of reducing the freight rates from Europe to Mali, the Minister of Planning and Transport, Mr Robert Tieble N'Daw, has announced. The long-term objective, probably in cooperation with neighboring countries, is to set up a shipping line operating from Europe to Kayes, the port on the River Senegal in Western Mali. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 3 Mar 80 p 407]

CSO: 4420

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS ON TRIP, MATTERS DISCUSSED

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 21 Feb 80 pp 1,4

[Text] Reporting to the press at Plaisance, yesterday afternoon, on his trip to Europe, Sir Harold Walter, minister for foreign affairs, emigration and tourism had occasion to note that this was one of the most important missions he had had assigned to him. The European journey had taken him to Great Britain, France, Austria and Germany, where, for the most part, discussions turned on cooperation. Was there any question of a defense treaty? Sir Harold formally denied any such possibility, though he did refer to the threat from the East, but added, textually (in English) "When we reach the bridge, we'll cross it." As for the eventual return of Chagos and Tromelin, this, he felt "would call for long negotiations..."

Sir Harold, who accompanied the prime minister, travelled first to Vienna, to the International Socialist Congress, attended by 14 heads of state. The latter all condemned the open attack on Kabul but at the same time they took care not to create any break in the detente or the establishment of blocs from which all countries would be compelled to withdraw. Subsequently, the North-South dialog began, directed to a new world economic order, and under the chairmanship of Mr Willy Brandt. The (Mauritian) foreign minister left for Dusseldorf, where he was to induct the new Mauritian honorary consul into office. He then met with his German counterpart, after a trip to Bonn on the official helicopter. The German minister expressed his country's sympathy for Mauritius in view of the two cyclones which swept the island. Germany had already contributed US$ 20,000, but an additional supplement of DM. 50,000 was now being offered to Sir Harold. With his German counterpart, he also took up the question of possible German installation of underground electric power and telephone networks. The project was approved in principal and three experts should arrive in Mauritius shortly to undertake a viability study. The study (and a part of the work?) will be financed by a DM. 600,000 fund which the federal authorities could direct to that purpose by June. Other possible openings for cooperation with Germany were also examined. The minister asserted that Germany is looking for friends and it must be admitted that the Mauritian repersentatives have gone to Europe, hat in hand, to beg for help.

After Germany, the Mauritian minister headed for Paris, where he represented his country at the funeral rites for Mr Rene Journiac. Later, a whole series of meetings was set up for him in France: a working meeting with Mr Robert Galley, followed by a luncheon; a similar meeting with Mr Rene Monory on the next day, ending in a dinner; a meeting with the Franco-Mauritian Association under the chairmanship of Mr Raymond Barre, a visit to the Elysee palace (presidency); a meeting with Mr Olivier Stirn during which the Tromelin issue was discussed and dates established for a more far-reaching study of the question. There was also an interview with Mr Jean-Francois Poncet just before the departure for London, where the minister was met by the British minister for Foreign Affairs. On this occasion, Sir Harold explained that French cooperation was already assured and that the different projects submitted should first be evaluated. French aid will possibly run into 5 million French francs and both FAC (French Aid and Cooperation Fund) and the CCCE (Central Fund for Economic Cooperation, also French) will open their resources to us. The chairman of this organization was invited to visit Mauritius in order to be able to assess the situation on the spot. Sir Harold made an appeal in the sense that we should help ourselves now that we have the full collaboration of the West, while at the same time stressing that the East has manifested no intention of participating.

However, on two occasions, Sir Harold found it necessary to deny that there had been any question of a defense pact. "It is only twisted minds who interpret absolute cooperation as a field for vested interests and old tricksters," he insisted, before explaining that certain of his meetings, particularly with Olivier Stirn, had dealt with the demarcation of the economic zone between Mauritius and Tromelin and Reunion. Nevertheless, Sir Harold would not add anything further to his statement, other than that a new date for discussions was considered and that the talks were still in the confidential stage. "We are not the kind who make an exhibition of ourselves at any streetfair" he noted, without further explanation.

The newspaper reporters came back to the question of defense and Sir Harold began by saying that he could not reply on the spur of the moment to a question which involved not only the government, but the whole country and all its people.

Ideology Will Not Fill an Empty Belly

However, the question might be studied and debated at the proper time. Sir Harold went on to state categorically that at no time was the issue raised in Paris. Yet one cannot understand why, beset by questions, Sir Harold should have replied so mysteriously in this case: ideology will not fill an empty belly. Nothing is impossible in politics if one is going to negotiate. But are we in a position to negotiate? We have neither an army nor a navy. We must therefore be realistic, pragmatic. Who is going to protect us? Russia? When he himself was asked to find an answer for the question, Sir Harold referred to a process of stabilization in the Chad, in Tunisia, and in Egypt. There had been one in Uganda. "What are the troops from Madagascar doing in the Seychelles Islands?" he queried. "In view of such a situation, it is better to take our attitude: one of prudence and wisdom." Alluding

again to the possible defense pact about which he had been questioned, Sir Harold Walter replied, "Who will protect us? When we come to the bridge, we will cross it. Meanwhile, we will try to go on living in this country despite the instability of regimes which do not appear to wear any progressive label on their backs."

When asked about the return of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius, which had been announced by Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, Sir Harold Walter explained the terms under which the islands had been ceded to Great Britain. It had been understood at the time by Sir Harold that when the base ceased to be useful, Mauritius would recover full rights to the area. To undertake any proceedings with a view to the return of the Chagos Islands would entail long negotiation at the diplomatic level.

We Must Not Resort to Dramatics

The question was: "Do you agree with the Prime Minister's statement to the effect that the ingratitude of the Mauritians must be held to account for their having had to weather three cyclones?" Sir Harold, in replying, thought there was no need for dramatics and that to assign too much importance to the P.M.'s exact words in what was perhaps a moment of weariness or distraction would be tantamount to a storm in a teacup. Isn't it true that we sometimes hear a father speak in this way to his child? However, what difference does it make to them?

When asked to determine whether the cyclones had a detrimental effect on the tourist campaign, Sir Harold, after recounting how he had been invited to inaugurate the World Tourism Week in Paris, then proceeded to hold the press responsible for any eventual decline in the number of tourists. "Every article you write on epidemics, highways washed away, etc is read in Europe and scares people away."

Referring to the replacement of the ambassador to the United States, Sir Harold Walter noted that it was the Mauritians themselves, the newspapers, the politicians and the taxpayers who called for cuts in the diplomatic budget. "It is necessary but not indispensable for the time being," the minister added, and then went on to say, "We can only hope for better days."

7129
CSO: 4400

STATUS, IDEOLOGY OF PSM DESCRIBED

Harish Boodhoo

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 13 Feb 80 p 1

[Words between slant lines printed in italics and in quotation marks]

[Text] There was one striking feature at the meeting Mr Harish Boodhoo held yesterday in Guy Rosemont Square, Port Louis, during his second political campaign trip: his audience barely reached 100 persons. This is but one more sign among many that the Mauritians are less and less interested in political affairs. The /national/ meeting which the party plans for 12 March will certainly give us a clearer picture. However, Mr Boodhoo insisted on giving out his message which, as we know, consists of an appeal to the sense of /responsibility/ of the Mauritians, so that they may build up a better island. Mr Boodhoo also made a series of rather disconcerting statements, affirming that within the core of the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement] there are five potential deserters ready, according to him, to give the government an opportunity to postpone the general elections.

In the course of his speech, Mr Boodhoo took up his usual themes, but also called on the Mauritians to stop acting as /spectators/ and /to take their fate into their own hands./ He likewise stated that the island of Mauritius /is on the threshold of a great change/ which should take place /peacefully/. The PSM [Mauritian Socialist Party], he asserted, is against any change by violent means.

Not only was the public cool to the meeting but it drew few of the PSM leaders themselves. Among those whose absence was remarked on figured Dr Rohit Beedassy (chairman) who was to have spoken and Mr Jocelyn Seenyen--who arrived just 5 minutes before the end of the meeting. The other speakers were Messrs Boo Pillay and Ramdahin, who both referred to the country's economic plight. Mr Pillay leveled his anger against the recent ministerial appointments which he regarded as /inopportune/ at a time when they are talking about austerity. It was /inconceivable/, according to him, that a country like Mauritius should indulge in the

luxury of so many ministers when in other nations, such as India and France, the number of ministers was 14 and 19, respectively.

Mr Ramdahin, on his part, avowed that the PSM did not intend to give itself the airs of a large-scale political party, able to face the electorate, but that it nevertheless aspires to play an important role in the future political life of Mauritius.

PSM Proposal

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 19 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] The PSM's document, containing its considered opinions, which was put into circulation during January (and which recent events prevented our becoming aware of sooner) affords a general picture of the country's current situation, in a presumably serious analysis in which not only are the options for the new political organization defined, but in which its fears and hopes are also set forth. Advocating what are called "openly socialist directives," the PSM judges that the successive stages to be reached in order to attain that goal are, to be exact, "decentralization of power," reform of the electoral system to ensure a proportional method, and a review of salaries. Nationalization and profit-sharing are two formulae which, in the PSM's view, will not solve our problems. Nevertheless, they would place their hope in cooperatives, "which could become the new engine for our country's economy." What is more, the PSM calls for greater freedom of the press and in this connection, a reform of the libel laws. Finally, the PSM demands that "the power be returned to the people" while at the same time, naturally, calling for the support or maintenance of that power.

Below, in broad lines, will be found the thinking of the PSM which, as we know, must precede any publication of an electoral manifesto.

The Decentralization of Power

The major reforms recommended by the PSM are:

Insofar as the institutions themselves are concerned, the party favors an "openly socialist directive" by means of the spreading of responsibility and economic decentralization. It hopes to see the emergence of a strong regional power, which must be structured and much more autonomous than at present, capable of relieving the state of numerous responsibilities and enabling it to devote itself increasingly to issues of national interest.

Such decentralization would have the advantage, to begin with, of associating the administrations of the different regions of the island to the seat of power and to the exercise of power. In addition, it would create a reserve of young regional leaders, some of whom would later be called

on to assume wider responsibilities after completing their regional apprenticeship. Of little current value, the formation of a political relief force is not encouraged. On the contrary, the idea is being sabotaged, muzzled.

Our electoral system should be reformed and proportional representation introduced. In this way, a reduction could be effected in the number of circumscriptions, deputies and ministers. The mayors and chairmen of the town councils should be elected by universal suffrage. Mauritius should become a republic, a constitutional system which would enable it to coopt capable people, other than politicians, to take over ministries which call for specific knowledge or training.

After referring to the extremely dangerous level of the Mauritian debt, the PSM stated that the country's problems over the past 3 years have arisen from the fact that the economic and fiscal systems constantly penalize the productive effort, channeling whatever productive effort does spring up into an unproductive sector. At the present time, government expenditure amounts to 55 percent of GNP (for 1978/1979) and everything appeared to favor the government's expenditure and unproductive investments. Thus, it is necessary to cut down government employment. The idea is not to reduce the existing number but rather transform it into a creative source of tangible wealth. This redirective for the civil service toward productive employment is absolutely essential.

Moreover, an immediate stop must be put to the disorder noted in the wages and salaries sector. Overtime, extra salaries, fringe benefits, bonus months must all be consolidated into a basic salary for good and all, and an indexing system, taking into account the cost of living must be established for at least 5 years, with yearly adjustments. (The PSM believes that indexing of not more than 80 percent is reasonable). The improvement in the real purchasing power will then come from higher productivity, distributed in the form of some kind of profit sharing when there are profits to share.

A minimum living wage must be introduced, which, according to the PSM will represent a considerable improvement for those receiving less than 1,200 R's monthly per family unit, for a minimal amount of work. Each bit of money received must be earned.

It is likewise important to consider the indexing of savings in connection with housing, as well as to advocate investments for the children with a graduated scale of tax exemptions, for instance, for productive investments, while at the same time discouraging immoderate consumption of superfluous consumer goods.

Under the same heading, the PSM emphasizes that the congressmen are in the forefront of those who do not work hard enough for the salaries they are given. Parliamentary recesses should be shortened. The party proposes a radical reform of the civil service, principally to eliminate

bottlenecks, to assist those with initiative to act, to reduce administrative paperwork, and to exercise better control over public moneys.

The Cooperative

After having acknowledged the failure of our economic system, based on the fact that 1 billion, 143 million Rs (national currency) went up in smoke from December 1975 to the end of 1980 (sic) and also in the light of the public debt, which has reached the astronomical figure of more than 1 billion Rs over the same period, the PSM deems that the country's economic and national wellbeing lies in a cooperative system. The party asserts that "We are convinced that Mauritian economic progress must first and above all go through the cooperative phase, which will enable us to crystallize all our aspirations more effectively for a better future for the Mauritian people and for their country."

Nationalization is not seen as a cure for our problems since, in the PSM's view, it does not allow the employee to humanize his work environment. All that happens is that the individual owners are replaced by an anonymous state, with all that underlies such a change, insofar as a risk to efficiency is concerned, as well as to politicization of the decision-making process, and the possibility of apathy and of a lack of vision.

Profit-sharing, in contrast, whether of capital or a share in the decision making, clearly makes the capitalist system more digestible, but it does not automatically presuppose the creation of new sources of wealth. One only assumes better distribution of what already exists. Indeed, a generalized sharing system will most likely prove to be a "disincentive" for present entrepreneurs to launch new enterprise because they will be called upon to share the profits of their knowledge (read technology) and their ideas.

In contrast, the cooperative assumes the placing in common ownership--and hence mutual aid--a common effort, a degree of collectivism. With a realistic and balanced plan, the cooperative could become the new engine for restarting the economic push.

In this same connection, the PSM defined the role that the private sector was to play in the following terms: "We hope that it will share to a greater extent and become more open. Nationalization is necessary in a certain sense but the state must not be monopolistic. It must be managed with controls and with the highest criteria of efficiency and profitability, for the ultimate good of the Mauritian citizen-consumer. Moreover, it must not simply replace private capitalism by state-run capitalism." Profit sharing by employees must not be the exclusive privilege of the private sector; more self-management is also required in the public sector, particularly when it is productive.

The Creation of Jobs

The PSM believes that industrialization will be one of the principal sources of employment in the years to come and that it must be stimulated at all costs. Over the next 5 years, food production will also become one of the mainsprings for the creation of jobs.

The Press

The PSM favors a reform of the libel laws in order to allow the press better to perform its task as a watchdog of democracy and to do so more efficiently

As a preamble to its considerations, the PSM reviewed the country's economic problems which are characterized by the disproportionate increase

of the national budget, the chronic deficit of the balance of payments, as well as social issues. It also stressed the inequality of prospects and fortune, commented on government difficulties and railed against the excessive centralization of the budget decisions.

The PSM also drew attention to what it considers problems of a general nature, namely inadequate services, denouncing what it calls the influencing of electoralist politics insofar as outstanding national activities are concerned. Youth, which hitherto had not been regarded as responsible, is now regarded as a major trump for the country. The nation's weaknesses, in the opinion of the PSM, are of a structural, moral, psychological and overall order.

Emphasis was likewise placed on outdated structures and outmoded systems, both in the economic and social as well as the administrative spheres. The PSM also condemned what it described as a general state of beggary. We always expect that the miracle, the solution in other words, will come to us from abroad rather than from ourselves. As a nation, we beg for aid all over the world and from the civic standpoint, we all resign. The PSM also assails the centralization of the decision-making centers which create frustrated people owing to the fact tnat all the resolutions are taken by a small group of politicians. The party also attacked the division of Mauritian society, the lack of leadership, of a sense of priorities and the division among our leaders.

Democracy

The PSM speaks of the "masquerade of Democracy" in relation with the fact that the parliament is too often blocked, or not privy to the shameful secrets which the government, on procedural points, manages to keep from it; and also in connection with the fact that the people who, directly or indirectly, contribute almost all of the current revenue of the government have no way of knowing how their money is spent other than the deformed or the deliberately misleading budget summaries.

Lastly, the PSM declared that its great ambition is to deliver the power to the people. "Give us the means of turning that wish into reality," say the party leaders in a final appeal to the nation.

7129
CSO: 4400

USE OF TERM 'COMRADE' EXPLAINED, DISCUSSED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 30 Jan 80 p 3

[Text] In today's article, we discuss the importance and political significance that FRELIMO gives to the term "comrade." This subject should be widely publicized in the people's newspapers throughout the country.

Where and when did the form of address "comrade" begin in FRELIMO?

The form of address "comrade" began with the formation of FRELIMO and was strengthened during the armed struggle for national liberation. The form of address was the result of the triumph of the revolutionary line It was the result of the triumph of the revolutionary ideals over the reaction headed by Kavandame, Simango, Gwendgere, Gumane and Joana Simeao who tried to attack FRELIMO's leadership and thus turn it from the essential struggle against Portuguese colonialism and its various forms of exploitation, oppression, humiliation and discrimination.

How is the term "comrade" used in our country?

During the period of transition and mainly after national independence, brought its values to the areas then occupied by colonialism, FRELIMO had to teach the entire population from Rovuma to Maputo. It could not sweep to the sidelines the citizens who, for the most part, identified with the struggle and FRELIMO's objectives. In this phase, the form of address "comrade" mainly helped the people to make a distinction from Portuguese colonialism. From then on, the term of address "comrade" quickly came into widespread use.

How is the term "comrade" used at work and in the home?

In all areas, whether at work or at home, the term "comrade" is improperly used. Frequently on buses, in schools, offices, hospitals, ministries, businesses, residential areas and communal hamlets, one hears the term "comrade" used to address an individual who is not disciplined, is delinquent and negligent, and is a saboteur, a thief or a criminal. Now, qualities are overlooked and that term is used indiscriminately.

What causes the widespread, improper use of the word "comrade?"

Generally, many people feel that the term "comrade" replaces the word "mister." At the same time, they feel that the term "mister" is a form of address appropriate to colonialism and the bourgeoisie. However, this thinking is wrong. It means that the term "comrade" is widely and improperly used. It has even happened that an enemy, a traitor of the people has been called "comrade." Thus, some think that to address a man as "mister" is the same as treating him like a bourgeois and a colonialist. Others seize the term "comrade" to camouflage their connection with the repressive structures of colonialism-fascism. Still others boldly demand to be called "comrade" and thus conceal the inability, incompetence, irresponsibility, delinquency and negligence which characterizes them at their place of work.

In fact, what does it mean to be a "comrade?"

A "comrade" is a servant of the masses and one who sacrifices himself for the majority. In happiness and in sadness, when uncertainty reigns, he is at the side of the masses and is ready to sacrifice all, even his very life, to benefit the majority.

A "comrade" is one who fights tribalism, regionalism, racism, exploitation and all forms of discrimination.

A "comrade" is one who struggles for the liberation and emancipation of women. A "comrade" is one who does not know small or large tasks, loves his people, his country, never betrays it and always struggles for peace and the liberation of the peoples still oppressed. In short, a "comrade" is one who defends the exploited and oppressed class.

How can the improper, indiscriminate use of the term "comrade" be ended?

As the supreme leader of our country, Comrade Samora Moises Machel announced at the 4 December meeting with health workers and at the 11 January meeting with the people of the city of Beira, the improper, widespread use of "comrade" or "comrade leader" must end at work and home. In the office, there is the office manager and the secretary. The professor is called "mister" at school. In the office, there is the administrator and the director. Likewise, the worker and the motorist should be called "mister."

Where and when should the term "comrade" be used?

The term "comrade" should be used exclusively by the militants, by the party members in party meetings, and only in party meetings. Today when FRELIMO is being structured, its members should not spread the use of "comrade." This form of address is a conquest, and cost the lives of the

best sons of the people. As a conquest, it must be valued and defended. We cannot tolerate its degradation or that its essence, its true meaning be transformed.

How should this question be discussed in the people's newspapers?

It is the responsibility of the people's newspapers in factories and businesses, ports and railroad stations, hospitals and schools, office and ministries, banks and shops, residential areas, communal hamlets, cooperatives and state farms to explain what "comrade" means. The people's newspapers must make clear that the widespread, indiscriminate, improper use of the term "comrade" must be eliminated, in order to guarantee the value of this great conquest, fruit of the blood and life of the Mozambique people.

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CSO: 4401

PRIVATE GROUPS TO ATTEMPT COFFEE PRODUCTION

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 1 Feb 80 p 6

[Excerpt] Manica--More than 5,000 coffee bushes will be planted in the next few days in the Manica District. This experiment, unique of its kind in all of Manica Province, is the result of frequent studies and tests made in that fertile region of our country by a group of private farmers who came some time ago to make a great effort to grow coffee, a product which has recently attained a considerable selling price on the world market.

Most climatic conditions for raising coffee have been satisfied--heat, water, light and shade; important experiments were made to obtain results which will determine in the future plantings on a smaller or larger scale. According to what we learned on the spot, the experiments carried out thus far have been completely successful, especially in seed production. Bushes from these seeds will be planted shortly.

"We have committed ourselves to a program of planting 5,000 coffee bushes this year in Aguas Frescas. The goal is gradually to supply Manica Province with coffee and, if possible, with an increase in this crop, to supply the entire country in the future, in order to reduce or even eliminate coffee imports," said Almeida Valgode, a farmer who has worked very hard to grow coffee in Manica Province.

Indeed, in the last 2 years, our country imported about 150 tons of coffee beans costing 28,139 contos in foreign exchange. These figures could decrease dramatically if the Ministry of Agriculture's project for growing coffee in the Zambezia area is implemented. A team of Tanzanian technicians did the study for this project in an area estimated between 100 and 200 hectares. The pilot experiment will be done using a variety of coffee called Arabica as a base and will be expanded in the future to the provinces of Nampula, Niassa and Cabo Delgado.

Mozambique Can Produce Various Kinds of the Best Coffees

In the arid regions of eastern Africa, particularly in Mozambique, a coffee called "Inhambane" of the Racemose coffee variety grows well. It is a xerophilous bush, quite different from all other known species. It is very resistant to drought because it loses its leaves during a drought and remains dormant until the first rains.

In our country, another species of coffee grows well; it is known as Caliphora and produces Robusta coffee, now known throughout the world. Grown in various African countries and India, the product is currently competing with the coffee of Brazil, a reason why it should be known.

9479
CSO: 4401

BRIEFS

RIGHT TO OIL PRICE INCREASE--In New Delhi on 30 January 1980, the PRM [People's Republic of Mozambique] condemned the fact that the current energy shortages were being used to divide the developing countries. The minister of industry and energy, Julio Carrilho, who took part in the Third UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization] Conference, delivered the speech for the PRM. The Mozambique minister also said that the PRM recognized the right of energy producing countries to increase the price. However, he urged that the petroleum exporting countries refrain from creating a greater imbalance in the balance of payments of underdeveloped countries which did not produce hydrocarbons because, he stressed, they were seriously affected by inflation exported throughout the world. Meanwhile, at yesterday's session, a message from President Fidel Castro to the UNIDO Conference accused the United States and other western powers of taking advantage of the international problems to pursue a policy of threats and domination. Referring to the question of Zimbabwe, President Fidel Castro's message said that the aspirations of that territory's people were threatened by the complicity of the British Government with the forces favoring the maintenance of racist rule and the advent of a neocolonial situation. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 1 Feb 80 p 1] 9479

STUDENTS IN CUBA--The Mozambique students in Cuba recently sent a message of salutations to Mozambique youth via our country's Ministry of Education and Culture. This message was sent on the occasion of the celebration of the second anniversary of the OJM [Mozambique Youth Organization] held last November throughout the People's Republic of Mozambique. "The Mozambique schools in Cuba are the supreme expression of the internationalist character of the Communist Party of Cuba and FRELIMO, the vanguard party, based on the universal principles of Marxism-Leninism," emphasized at one point the message of the Mozambique students in that socialist country of Latin America. The message then stated that dynamism and youthful vigor renewed itself and developed in each daily activity--in study, production and farming; it subsequently saluted the Mozambique youth for the way in which they committed themselves to national reconstruction. "At this moment, the conclusion of the International Year of the Child, we salute all our country's children and speak out for the peace and

happiness of the children of Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa and all countries of the world." [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 30 Jan 80 p 4] 9479

ADB AGRICULTURAL LOANS--A delegation from the People's Republic of Mozambique recently went to Abidjan to sign two loan agreements with the ADB [African Development Bank] and the ADF [African Development Fund] group. These loans will be used for an agricultural production project in Zambezia Province; it aims mainly to produce food and, moreover, create new jobs, improve the living conditions of the agricultural workers and the people of the area, help develop the cooperative sector and increase the production of family farms by spreading new cultivation techniques, supplying seeds and marketing surplus agricultural products. The president of the People's Development Bank, Eneias Comiche, signed for the Mozambique side while the ADB acting president, C. Kerdoubi Kolali, signed for the ADB and the ADF. The Lioma agricultural development project--which will be partially financed by funds obtained through these loans--helps to implement the directives mapped out by the FRELIMO party and the state for this decade. The Lioma project, in Alta Zambezia, aims to develop a total area of 29,000 hectares mainly for agricultural production and other food producing activities. The portion financed by the ADB group covers an area of 16,000 hectares and will produce cereals and oil-producing crops, mainly corn and sunflowers. After 5 years of project implementation, it should achieve the goal of 49,000 tons of corn a year and 2,500 tons of sunflowers a year. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 1 Feb 80 p 1] 9479

CSO: 4401

BRIEFS

DAMARALAND BUILDING BOOM--A building boom is flourishing in Damaraland and a number of big projects are due to be completed within the next two months. A t tal of 46 houses are due to be finished at the end of March. The houses, supplied with electricity are modern and consist of three bedrooms, a kitchen, a sittingroom and bath and toilet facilities. Near Okombahe, the old aged home, as a number of schools and hostel facilities being built by the Department of Education are nearing completion. It is envisaged that these facilities will be taken into use when the new term commences. The new agricultural school at Brauenfels is nearing completion. [Text] [Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 18 Mar 80 p 7]

KHOMASDAL HOUSES FOR WHITES--Whites should be given the opportunity to obtain houses in Khomasdal, subject to the same conditions as Coloureds. This was recommended to the City Council by the Advisory Committee at its meeting on Thursday night. In the light of present legislation on discriminatory measures, there is no law to prevent Whites buying erven or any private property in Khomasdal. Project houses of the economic housing project should in future also be for sale to Whites. Municipal houses in Khomasdal may also be rented to Whites provided their names are placed on the waiting list and they meet the present requirements. [Text] [Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 18 Mar 80 p 7]

BUSINESS BOOM IN OKAHANDJA--There is such a demand for housing being experienced in Okahandja that the municipality has decided to have an auction of all available residential and industrial erven on March 27. A total of 10 industrial erven and 88 residential erven are being offered with an inset price of R1 and R1.50 respectively. The auction will start at 10am on March 27. Certain areas of the municipal commonage will also be offered as grazing at a specified rental. Business is flourishing according to our correspondent at Okahandja. He said that a Johannesburg-based firm, Rumevite, had asked for an industrial erf to construct a factory. A French firm had also requested five hectares for the building of a pipe factory and 10-15 houses. But at this stage the latter is unavailable. [Text] [Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 18 Mar 80 p 7]

WEAVING MILL FOR KARIBIB--Karibib is to get its own weaving mill, a project to be financed by ENOK. It is expected that most of the carpets produced by

the project will be destined for export. Initially a similar weaving mill was planned by ENOK for Khorixas and an amount of R123 000 was approved for the project. However the project fell through because it was impossible to find the right management. According to a spokesman for ENOK, the weaving mill at Karibib will be operated by the private sector and will present job opportunities for 30 people. [Text] [Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 18 Mar 80 p 7]

CSO: 4420

GOVERNMENT'S POTENTIAL ROLE IN RHODESIA DISCUSSED

External Affairs Minister's Statement

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 8 Mar 80 p 32

[Article by Liad Tella]

[Text] Nigeria is already to send civil servants to Zimbabwe, if the feared emigration of white officials materialises and is a head-ache to Mr Robert Mugabe, it was said in Lagos yesterday.

The announcement came from External Affairs Minister, Ishaya Audu, who also said any requests for military help by Mr Mugabe would be considered.

Mr Mugabe an African, won last month's Zimbabwe independence elections, which climaxed his 11 years guerilla war resistance to racist, white minority government in Zimbabwe.

Professor Audu announced the Nigerian gesture at a Press briefing.

He said that since 1975, Nigeria had spent about N25 million on the liberation struggle in southern Africa.

"Nigeria is aware of the likely exodus of white civil servants from Zimbabwe and other extraneous forces that may want to destabilise that country," he said.

"Nigeria would, therefore, jealously guide the independence of that nation but would not intervene in its internal affairs unless otherwise requested.

Professor Audu emphasised that Nigeria could meaningfully consider herself truly free, secure, properous and stable only if Africa as a whole enjoyed similar condition.

"Nigeria would, therefore, use its potentials to the best of its ability to bring about social, economic, justice and political emancipation of the continent of Africa," he said.

He said, although Nigeria was committed to the armed liberation of the last pocket of racism in southern Africa, she could not close her eyes, as it did on Zimbabwe, to any genuine peaceful move to restore social justice in that part of Africa. And this was why Nigeria supported the current lulled five-power proposal on Namibia, Professor Audu explained.

Commitment

Though Africa was the "centre piece" of Nigeria's foreign policy, Nigeria was all the same committed to the principle and tenets of the UNO, stand positively by objectives of the non-aligned movement, support the OPEC and participate in prevailing international economic order for the enhancement of the social wellbeing of mankind and the evolution of fair, just and peaceful world, he said.

Professor Audu called on African nation to forget their differences and pull their resources together for "the total emancipation of Africa from foreign domination."

On the Nigerian scene, the minister regretted that there had been some misgivings on the role of Nigerian embassies abroad. He said he was not pleased that the apparent lack of response to foreign students by the Federal and state government was responsible for the uncomplimentary remarks about his ministry.

He warned Nigerians abroad not to take Nigeria's embassy as "a treasury" where they could always solve their "financial problems."

"It is generally known that assistance to Nigeria's sub-head under embassy's vote for the year is the leanest.

The money varies between ₦200 and ₦2,000." How can we effectively give financial assistance from this?, the minister asked.

Representative in Rhodesia

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 12 Mar 80 p 9

[Article by Nick Facugba]

[Text] The Federal Government has been warned not to allow itself to be led on a "Wild Goose chase" in African affairs.

"Nigeria should never mistakenly believe that it is so strong and powerful that it can go it alone in Africa," declared Mr Sam G Ikoku, the country's representative on the eleven-man Commonwealth observer team which monitored Zimbabwe's independence elections.

He said "to do so would be to isolate the country in Africa while exposing it to the greater danger of breaking the present consensus on foreign policy at home."

He was talking to the Daily Times on the eve of his departure to London, on his way back to the country.

To avoid isolating itself, he suggested that the country should always work through the Organisation of African Unity, the Commonwealth, and the "Front-line" states to achieve its foreign policy objectives.

"Nigeria should never undertake solo acts in international affairs," he said.

Mr Ikoku also sounded a serious note of warning on the country's southern African commitments.

"The fight against apartheid in South Africa will be a very tough one. If Nigeria thinks it will be like Zimbabwe it is deceiving herself as South African whites will fight to the very last man and the country has a powerful economy which can sustain a high level of military activity for some time".

Nigeria, he argued, should fight apartheid in concert with other countries rather than on its own.

"It will be a push-over, but I am sure we will succeed if we take a consistent line and work in concert with the OAU and the Front-line states", he said.

Mr. Ikoku warned, however, that if Nigeria failed to play its role in southern Africa with precision and resolve" it would lose its position as the "leading country in African diplomacy."

For a start, he said, Nigeria should immediately dispatch one of the two ministers of State in the Ministry of External Affairs to Salisbury as the country's "resident minister" to southern Africa.

He said that the resident Minister who would be directly responsible to President Shehu Shagari, would be in charge of the country's "interests and commitments" to the whole of the southern Africa region, he said.

Besides he said the country needed a clear-cut political line in the region to supplement its diplomatic channel because, "throughout the 1980's, southern Africa will be Nigeria's main diplomatic problem."

In addition to a "large embassy manned by experienced diplomats", Nigeria must also send a military attache to Salisbury, he urged.

"This we must do not only in the interests of Zimbabwe but also in the interest of the liberation struggle in Africa."

Mr. Ikoku recalled that the idea of a resident minister was used successfully by Britain's Sir Winston Churchill during the second World War.

'DAILY TIMES' Editorial

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 7 Mar 80 p 3

[Editorial: "The Road From Salisbury"]

[Text] As a last ditch effort to maintain the obnoxious status quo in the region, South Africa was lately considering the formation of a constellation of southern Africa states with Pretoria as the pivot.

Rebel leader Ian Smith, his army commander, General Peter Walls, and his precarious successor Bishop Abel Muzorewa supported the racists' so-called economic co-operation plan backed by a military pact with Zimbabwe forming the northern corridor.

Zimbabwe as a break-away British territory had received considerable patronage from the South Africans. It was relatively rich compared with the small independent countries in the zone, including Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Malawi and even Mozambique. It was also comparatively stronger militarily than any one of them.

Pretoria's scheme inevitably depended on securing an independent Zimbabwe for safe comrades-in-power. Mr. Mugabe and Mr. Nkomo were to be definitely out of the propositions.

We are, therefore, astounded to hear that Mr. Mugabe has been at some friendly talks with South Africa's Foreign Minister, Pik Botha, and has in fact indicated in one of his earliest post-election comments that he did not intend to interfere in any way, with the enclave's internal affairs.

Perhaps it would have been imprudent for the Prime Minister-elect to start picking bones with the awesome Boer's before his government was firmly established.

However, it is absolutely necessary that he avoids so soon in the day, any untoward commitment that is capable of distorting his long respected revolutionary profile or dampening the hopes for further liberation efforts in that part of the continent, which Africa sees in his resounding victory.

As President Shehu Shagari has very aptly stated, the triumph of Mugabe is victory for Africa and the Third World against the forces of racism and should constitute an impetus for the total liberation of this continent.

Nationalist fighters in Namibia and South Africa itself, ought to be able to look up to the Patriotic Front leaders the same way that Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo sought solace with Presidents Machel and Kaunda respectively.

Zimbabwe is most strategically located. It shares a border with South Africa and is connected with Namibia through the neck of the Victoria Falls.

That means that as far as logistics go, it joins Angola, Botswana, Zambia and Mozambique to form a continuous land mass almost along the Tropic of Capricorn, and hemming in reasonably the remaining provinces of the racists. The authorities in Pretoria cannot mistake the imminent danger and Mr Mugabe should have no business encouraging any silly overtures from them.

CSO: 4420

NPN LEADERS DISCUSS NPP WORKING AGREEMENT

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 10 Mar 80 p 40

[Text] NPN national executives met in Lagos at the week-end and decided to make their party's accord with the NPP more workable.

The accord is for a joint running of the Federal Government, in which the NPP has been claiming it is not getting "fair share" participation.

The NPN communique said it would encourage "healthy dialogue" among NPN and NPP leaders, to foster NPP confidence and "sustain the laudable spirit and fine letters of the accord."

The communique was signed by NPN's national secretary, Alhaji Suleiman Takuma.

The communique said too that the party felt depressed about the oil spillage in parts of the Rivers State and was glad that President Shehu Shagari was sending N2 million worth of relief materials to the victims.

The party said it was mobilising efforts to send the victims additional help.

The meeting also endorsed arrangements for the launching of a book--"How Shagari became President"--in Kaduna on Friday.

While discussion on the report on the party's reorganisation was put off, it was decided that inaugural meeting of its state secretaries would take place in Kano between March 27 and 28.

CSO: 4420

TRADITIONAL RULERS' ROLE DISCUSSED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 7 Mar 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Traditional Rulers"]

[Text] BY now the often heard promise to respect and involve traditional rulers in the governing of this country must have become commonplace. Yet heads of government who make such statements do so with all seriousness. The precise nature of the involvement is seldom stated. What is more, both the traditional rulers and the politicians who promise them greater involvement will be checked by the power of change.

No one institution has suffered a greater erosion of its power than that of the traditional rulers. Its predicament began with the series of administrative reforms that culminated in the local governments. This process cannot be reversed without causing serious disruptions. The traditional rulers will thus become increasingly ceremonial. But the large measure of respectability which they still enjoy may endure for some time. It is this respectability which heads of government past and present both admire and envy.

In the rural areas the words of the village heads are still important. No occasion supports this contention better than the period of a national campaign. The rural health worker needs the co-operation of the village and hamlet heads to reach his targets. They have so far not declined to give. If governors know this, and there is no reason to suggest they don't, they will not be accusing them for lack of co-operation.

Distinction, however, must be made between this type of co-operation and the type now requested. The latter is more often than not intended to enhance the position of a political party in power rather than the government of a state per se. Admittedly the boundary is diffused, but if scrupulously pursued the distinction can be of immense help to the state governments.

CSO: 4420

EX-SOLDIERS IN POLICE SAID TO CAUSE PROBLEMS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 7 Mar 80 p 24

[Article by Mustapha Tor Waya]

[Excerpt] Demobilised soldiers recruited into the Nigeria Police Force at the Police College in Kaduna have absconded in a 'large number', reliable sources told our correspondent on Wednesday. The sources could not say the exact number. Most of the demobilised soldiers who chose to join the police force in the first place did so with the motive of use facilities of the police only to secure their gratuity early, and desert the force thereafter, the sources further alleged.

Our correspondent was told that the ex-soldiers were becoming a great nuisance to the police force. This remark followed our correspondent's investigation into allegations of short payment of allowances to some police recruits.

It was also alleged that the ex-soldiers were being discriminated against on the ground that they were still soldiers and not policemen.

The recruits lacked discipline and, therefore, did not fit into the police force well, the sources claimed.

The sources added that most cases of armed robbery investigated by the police all over the country led to the discovery of active participation by one or more of the demobilised soldiers.

The sources said even soldiers who had the patience to wait to be posted to various stations in the federation later refused to report at their places of posting.

According to the sources there had been reports from different state police commands enquiring, several months after postings, about what had become of constables posted to their areas.

CSO: 4420

SIX AFRICAN COMMUNITIES SEEK WORK PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 10 Mar 80 p 9

[Text] Representatives of six African communities in Monrovia, Liberia have made a passionate appeal to President William Tolbert for consideration for exemption from a newly levied permit registration, under the title "WORK PERMIT" which African aliens are required to obtain before they could carry out their businesses in Liberia.

These communities, which comprise Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Mali, Senegal and Guinea, are mainly owners of retail shops and other petty businesses.

According to Liberian labor laws, the Ministry of Labor requires every alien carrying on business in Liberia to pay the Sum of $133 yearly to obtain labor clearance for issuing of work permit.

These communities are therefore appealing to President Tolbert to take into consideration the existence of an African family system and reduce the charges or modify the labor laws.

They contended that the burden will be too much for them, since their wives, grown-up children, and other relatives, will be required to pay $133 each, before they could be allowed to help them in their shops, thereby undermining the value of their business.

The Liberian law further requires aliens to pay $133 for resident permit.

Meanwhile, the Labor Ministry has embarked upon a massive closure of foreign-owned retail shops as a result of repeated refusal on the part of owners to pay the yearly fees.

According to official reports, about 150 retail shops will be affected in Monrovia.

My investigations showed that some naturalized Liberians have also closed their shops in sympathy with their foreign brothers.

Interviewed, the Minister of Labor, Youth and Sports, Estrada Bernard, stated that African aliens alone could not be exempted from meeting the labor requirement, adding that this would not only be discriminatory, but a dangerous precedent.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

DISSOLUTION OF JAMB--The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) is to be scrapped. In its place, a new body will be created whose primary function is expected to be the conduct of matriculation examination. A statement issued by the Executive Office of the President yesterday, said the responsibility for admitting students into Nigerian universities would be returned to the universities. The statement said President Shehu Shagari took the decision in view of the widespread criticism and expression of dissatisfaction with the JAMB. The statement also said that consultations would be held with the Committee of Vice-Chancellors to evolve a machinery for achieving reasonably uniform standard for entry into the universities. The machinery would avoid multiple admissions and discrimination against qualified Nigerians in admissions to federal universities. The statement further explained that ways and means of reflecting the federal character of the country in Nigerian universities would also be worked out. The Executive Office of the President said that a bill to effect the changes would soon be presented to the National Assembly for consideration and approval. [Excerpt] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 12 Mar 80 pp 1, 3]

KADUNA ASSEMBLY CONTROVERSY--The Kaduna State Assembly had a stormy session yesterday as the majority party members of the Assembly refused to pass motions moved by the minority party members. Two motions moved by the minority party members attracted heated debate and divisions in the Assembly, but the three motions moved by the majority party members were all passed without any hitch. The two motions of the minority party members were for the construction of roads and a general hospital in Ikara Local Government area of the state. Speaking soon after the sessions, the NPN spokesman in the Assembly, Alhaji Abdu Mashi, said the majority party had to take this drastic action because of the attitude of the minority party members whom, he said, were among the propagators of discord between them and the executive. [Excerpts] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 11 Mar 80 p 13]

EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE FOR LOCALS--The Kaduna State Public Service Commission has complained that some Federal Government establishments in the state were not sufficiently complying with the policies of the Federal Public Service Commission in the employment of their junior staff. In a letter signed by its acting Secretary, Malam A. D. Malumfashi, and sent to all heads of federal establishments in the state, the state Public Service

Commission explained that it was compusory for such establishments to employ only indigenes of the state to fill all vacancies where the educational requirements were not above the West African School Certificate (WASC). The state Public Service Commission further stated that "as regards the posts attracting salary grade levels 05, 06 and above in sub-administrative and sub-professional cadres, indigenes should be given preference whenever they are available." [Excerpt] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 7 Mar 80 p 24]

PRESIDENT'S TITLE--The President directed yesterday that he should no longer be addressed as "Your Excellency." He wants to be called "Mr President." This came out in an official statement issued in Lagos. Mr President's full title, however, remained unchanged.--President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. Another directive renamed the Cabinet Office, the Executive Office of the President. Both announcements came from the Federal Government secretary. [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 7 Mar 80 p 40]

AIRWAYS SERVICE IMPROVEMENT--The Nigeria Airways carried a total of 1,521 million passengers in 1979. This represented an increase of 9.8 per cent or 135,156 passengers over the figure for 1978. According to the Statistics Department of the airline, 213,042 of the passengers were carried on the international routes, while the balance of 1,308,243 passengers were carried on domestic routes. The airline now has a fleet of 28 planes--eight F28 and eight F27 planes, three Boeing 737; two Boeing 727; three Boeing 707 and two DC. 10 aircraft. But the demand for its services, particularly on the domestic routes has perenially exceeded the supply. The supply deficiences coupled with a high degree of inefficiency led to chaotic conditions on nearly all domestic operations of the airline. And it was this chaos that exasparated the government into sacking the airlines management, and appointing KLM to run it for two years. The KLM team has made some improvement but has not performed a miracle, which it seems many Nigerians expected from them. For instance, although the airline performed beyond most expectations last December, carrying a record of 176,411 passengers in one month, what most people remember is the frustration at the airport around Christmas, and the long queues. [Text] [Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Mar 80 p 1]

ISLAMIC LAW CLARIFICATION--The Grand Khadi of Kwara State Alhaji Abdulkadir Orire, has told the Kwara State House of Assembly that Islamic Personal Law was immutable. He said that to reform Islamic law would amount to saying that "God is not perfect". Alhaji Orire stated that it was the only aspect of the Islamic law being operated in the northern states and that the remaining seven branches had been discontinued since independence. He explained that the revision could only be carried out in the Sharia Court of Appeal Law and the Rules. A bill for the revision of the state's existing laws was being debated when the majority leader in the House, Alhaji Salihu Abdulah, urged the House to invite the Grand Khadi following apprehension by some Moslem members of the House as to the absence of any moslem law scholar on the Law Revision Commission. [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 7 Mar 80 p 3]

LAGOS POWER PROJECTS--The Nigerian Electric Power Authority (NEPA) has taken another step to improve the quality of power supply to the Lagos metropolis by commissioning their biggest ever sub-station in Lagos. According to the NEPA News, the transformer sub-station is a 600 MVA (15x4) 330/132 sub-station and cost N10 million, which makes it the biggest transformer so far anywhere in the country. It is situated at Ipaja in Ikeja West of Lagos State and serves as the main switching centre for all power coming into the Lagos area. It also serves as the feeding point for all other sub-stations in the Lagos area. All the power from Kainji, Sapele, Ughelli and Afam now goes to the Ikeja West sub-station first before being distributed to other parts of the state. Another major project in the Lagos area is the new 132 KV double circuit transmission line from the Ikeja West sub-station to bring bulk supply to the Ikoyi area already under construction. This line is expected to carry a total power of 270 Megawatts; on a total route length of 50 kilometres. [Excerpts] [Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Mar 80 p 32]

PRICE INDEX--The all items weighted price index for the third quarter of 1979 was 305.9. Showing increases of 1.2 and 7.4 percent over the levels in the preceding quarter and the corresponding quarter of 1978; respectively; the Central Bank has said in its Monthly Report. The price index for food in the third quarter of 1979 was 326.8; showing increases of 2.4 and 3.3 per cent over the levels in the previous quarter and the corresponding quarter, a year earlied respectively. [Excerpts] [Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Mar 80 p 32]

CSO: 4420

PM MOVES INTO SEAT OF POWER

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

AN empty desk, three telephones, a desk lamp and a row of settees and chairs greeted Mr Robert Mugabe when he first set foot in the Prime Minister's office yesterday.

The richly carpeted and curtained office on the first floor of Milton Buildings, once the official office of the former Prime Minister of Rhodesia, Mr Ian Smith, and the former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe Rhodesia, Bishop Muzorewa, showed signs of disuse.

The walls were stripped of all decorations. There was evidence that a cleaner had been neglecting his duty since Bishop Muzorewa moved out early this month after the defeat of the UANC in the independence election.

But Mr Mugabe did not mind the condition. He posed for the Herald photographer to take the first pictures of his first day in the office from which he will guide the destiny of Zimbabwe.

Officials hurriedly created a busy atmosphere in the office, spreading blotting paper and placing documents, one marked "restricted", on the large desk.

"I don't need glasses when reading," said the Prime Minister as he took off his spectacles to read the restricted document.

The Prime Minister's office moved to the first floor room after Mr Smith took office in 1965, explained an official. Previous Prime Ministers had used a room on the ground floor. Mr Smith moved from that room because of the noise of traffic along Jameson Avenue, added the official.

In the reception room the only relic of the Muzorewa regime was Miss Evelyn Kawonza, once the bishop's personal secretary at the UANC headquarters and later the social secretary.

She said she had been asked to help in familiarising the incoming staff with the chores they will be expected to perform. Once that is over, she believes, she will be asked to leave as the rest of Bishop Muzorewa's personal staff has already done.

Former guerillas, now either bodyguards to Ministers or general security men, kept a vigil over the Prime Minister's office and Ministers' cars.

CSO: 4420

PM HOLDS FIRST CABINET MEETING, GRANTS INTERVIEW

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 1

[Article by Tonic Sakaike]

[Text] **THE PRIME MINISTER, Mr Robert Mugabe, yesterday called on the people of Rhodesia to gear themselves towards making a success of the independence celebrations next month.**

He said he was looking forward to the celebrations, to be attended by Prince Charles at midnight on April 17, and "taking effective control of the machinery of government thereafter".

The Prime Minister was speaking during an interview in his office at Milton Building shortly after presiding over the first meeting of his Cabinet.

The Cabinet of 22 Ministers and 18 Deputy Ministers met to give members a chance to meet one another. The Ministers were also briefed by the Prime Minister on the general principles which should guide them in their work.

"The requirement was that they should familiarise themselves with the work involved in their respective ministries—the need to establish harmonious relations between themselves and the heads of departments—and seek to know much more about the departments from those who are already in the departments," said Mr Mugabe.

"They should bear in mind the need to have this knowledge as a basis for any new policies which the respective ministries will be called upon to implement," he added.

The meeting yesterday also looked into housing and transport for the new Ministers.

Asked how he felt, the Prime Minister said: "It was a real honour for me to preside over this first meeting. I hope that the success of this morning's meeting will repeat itself in future meetings."

He said it was an honour bestowed upon him by the people but "there is the challenge we should feel as having resulted from our election victory to implement those policies which we published in our manifesto".

The people could then see their elected leaders as a Government working in accordance with their wishes.

Mr Mugabe said there would "certainly" be a new national flag by Independence Day. But a new national anthem would come later.

"We don't want to rush into it. We may just play

some music when the (new) flag is hoisted and the British flag is lowered. We want a national anthem to be a serious thing and, given the fact that we have only four weeks in which to compose it, I cannot see us coming up with a very satisfactory anthem both in terms of the words and music."

Mr Mugabe would rather see the introduction of a new anthem deferred to give people the chance to compose and finally come up with a satisfactory national anthem.

Surprise

On the candidate for the presidency, Mr Mugabe said his name was a secret. "We wanted to spring a surprise — perhaps it is no longer a surprise as people are making guesses and all kinds of rumours are going around. It won't be very much of a surprise."

Unconfirmed reports say the first President of Zimbabwe will be the Rev. Canaan Banana, an unsuccessful ZANU (PF) candidate in the general election.

After his election by an electoral college of MPs and Senators, the new president will be sworn in by the Chief Justice or another High Court judge, according to an informed source.

The swearing-in ceremony is expected to take place on Independence Day at Rufaro Stadium, Harare, Salisbury, and to be witnessed by Prince Charles, representing the Queen, and by heads of state attending the celebrations.

The President will then swear in the Prime Minister and the Cabinet.

In the interview yesterday, the Prime Minister said he was spending his time talking to individual ministers about their work and giving them guidance.

He was also advising ministers on the type of relationship they should try to establish in the ministries and also attending to ZANU(PF) business.

CSO: 4420

COMMENTARIES ON MARTIAL LAW, REVAMPING OF ZRBC

Outlived Its Usefulness

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 8

[Editorial: "Scrap Them"]

[Text] MARTIAL LAW, like much else in our rapidly changing circumstances, has outlived its usefulness. The suggestion that it is to be removed this week is therefore welcome. All but one of about 1 200 people detained under martial law have now been released.

Next on the removal list must be the state of emergency. It was first imposed just before UDI in 1965, and has been renewed periodically ever since. But it, too, has outlived its usefulness.

It is unthinkable that Zimbabwe should be born in a state of emergency, so this particular restriction will have to be scrapped by April 18 in any event. That being the case, it might just as well be sent packing immediately.

By their very nature, regulations framed under the state of emergency conflict with the freedoms enumerated in the Bill of Rights. Among other things they permit detention without trial and impose restraints upon the Press.

Even if it is believed that some of these must be retained (although it is hard to see why they should be), there would still be no need to keep the entire emergency legislation intact merely for this purpose.

One of the reasons sometimes advanced for the continuation of the state of emergency was the fact that, in addition to Rhodesia's security needs, we were fighting a sanctions war. But even if peace still does not apply throughout the country, sanctions are now mercifully a thing of the past.

Rumors Start Over ZRBC

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 8

[Editorial: "Set Record Straight"]

[Text]

MR MUGABE'S remark last week that the ZRBC needed a "real overhauling" brought in its wake a spate of rumours about the future of the Board of Governors and senior members of the corporation. Resignations were reported and denied.

Apart from a brief statement from the chairman of the board, Mr Bill Basson, which really shed no light on the over-all position, officialdom has had nothing to say. Since the ZRBC is in fact a statutory body this is a highly unsatisfactory state of affairs. It is time someone in authority set the record straight.

CSO: 4420

EQUAL TREATMENT OF WOMEN CLAIMED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 4

[Text] DURING the war women guerillas proved they could hold a gun and fight shoulder to shoulder with the men, the ZANU (PF) MP for Midlands, Mrs Julia Zvobgo, said yesterday.

Mrs Zvobgo, who is also the wife of the new Minister of Local Government, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, told an all-white cultural meeting arranged by the NUF that women had finally been accepted and treated as equals in Mr Robert Mugabe's ZANLA guerilla army.

RELUCTANT

At first, because of the traditional status of black women, the men had been reluctant to accept women in their ranks.

But a shortage of fighting men had forced ZANLA into using women, and they proved "they could fight like men," she said.

After that, men and women were treated equally in ZANLA camps. "We all wore the same pants, did the same jobs and did everything together — even in the kitchen men took their turn."

Traditionally it was taboo for men to enter the kitchen but this was one of many outmoded African customs that was done away with in the bush.

When she first became involved in the struggle Mrs Zvobgo said she had been appalled to find that in the refugee camps in Mozambique black women "were really backward in most things".

As administrative secretary for the party's then newly created Women's Affairs Department she had argued for women to be given the same jobs as men.

She said the black women's inferior position in African society in Rhodesia had been caused by lack of education. This had been caused by the system in the country which did not offer free education to blacks and parents, most of whom were poor, could only afford to send their boys to school.

CHEERS

Women could only be truly freed through education, Mrs Zvobgo said to cheers from the predominantly female audience.

Women in many western countries were free even though they had never fought "in the jungles and carried guns" like Rhodesian women had done.

She said she would like to see the Government stop the system of polygamy. "We will continue to press for the removal of polygamy", she said.

CSO: 4420

WEST GERMAN ASSISTANCE OFFER REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 3

[Text]

THE West German Government is prepared to give assistance directly to "Zimbabwe" as well as working through international agencies such as the United Nations and the European Economic Community, an official said in Salisbury this week.

The Federal Republic's liaison officer in Salisbury, Dr Helmut Ohlraun, said the "main thrust of assistance will be on bilateral co-operation between our Governments".

Mr Mugabe's Government, he said, had given a positive response. "We are very much encouraged by their position and willingness to co-operate with us.

"As the major contributor to the European Development Fund — a key part of the Lome Convention — there will of course be further aid channelled to Zimbabwe," Dr Ohlraun said.

West Germany had helped refugees in Mozambique and Botswana through the U.N. and EEC and had spent U.S. $10 million on humanitarian aid since 1976.

A scholarship programme, set up some years ago, is still running and Dr Ohlraun said that at present several hundred Rhodesians are studying either in West Germany or other African states. This is likely to continue.

On trade he said: "There is great potential for investment and trade and our business community is very keen to establish good trade relations. Schemes are already being prepared with the possibility of Government financing and with joint ventures we have a Government agency to assist there.

"Our people are watching the situation very closely and what direction the business community here is taking. If it develops a sense of confidence in the new Government it will be very encouraging for our own business people at home."

Dr Ohlraun (37) has been in the West German Foreign Office for eight years. He has served as his country's UNESCO representative in Paris and as second-in-command at its embassy in Monrovia.

For the last three years he has been on the Africa desk of the Foreign Ministry in Bonn. He arrived here in February to re-establish diplomatic relations in Salisbury as a prelude to establishing a West German Embassy.

CSO: 4420

SIX COMPANIES HIT BY STRIKES

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

WORK stoppages have occurred at six commercial concerns, five in Salisbury and one in Bulawayo, over the last few days, a spokesman for the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare said yesterday.

The spokesman confirmed in a statement that industrial unrest had occurred at Fashion Enterprises (Pvt.) Ltd, Concorde Clothing (1975) (Pvt.) Ltd, Cone Textiles (Pvt.) Ltd, Tube and Pipes Ltd, Crittal-Hope Ltd, all of Salisbury, and at Rhodesian Weaving Mills Ltd in Bulawayo.

Workers at some of the firms had returned to work and negotiations continued at others, the statement said.

The Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, said in a statement that information he had received on employees striking or threatening to do so indicated that the cause of the unrest was a "malicious rumour" that the new Government was to nationalise all pension funds.

In Salisbury, the Herald was told that at Cone Textiles (Pvt.) Ltd in the Seki industrial area, about 900 workers walked off the job on Monday morning on the pretext that one of them had been abused by the production manager.

Senior members of the staff said the early shift was offered a "pay-out" but turned it down and stopped work. Later shifts supported their stand and by 2 p.m. yesterday work had not resumed.

The owner of the factory, Mr Vic Cohen, said on Monday: "No one has been fired. If the workers come to work I will be very happy to see them."

It is expected that workers will gather again this morning for further negotiations.

The clothing firm of Fashion Enterprises lost a morning's production on Friday when workers walked out in protest against contributions to a pension scheme involving their company and their trade union.

The firm's managing director said they went back to work after two ZANU (PF) officials told them their grievances would be examined when the Government took office.

In the Workington factory of Crittal-Hope, a number of staff yesterday left their posts after they found a note pinned to the gate inciting workers to strike for higher wages, said a security guard, who did not wish to be named.

SURROUNDED

The gates of the factory were surrounded by men who said they were trying for the jobs at the factory.

The managing director of Tube and Pipes, Mr Stefan Kaiser, said about 250 workers at his factory returned after a four-hour walk-out yesterday morning. They were demanding that the minimum factory wage be increased to $1 an hour from 30c an hour.

Mr Kaiser said he believed ZANU (PF) had been instrumental in get-

ting his staff back to work.

At Concorde Clothing (Pvt) Ltd, about 410 people stopped work for about three hours yesterday morning to demand that a floor manager and two supervisors be dismissed, the firm's managing director said.

Work was resumed after intervention by two members of the Industrial Council of the Clothing Industry.

In Bulawayo, about 40 workmen in the spinning department of Rhodesian Weaving Mills Ltd stopped work for an hour in a dispute on working hours, a company spokesman said.

"However," he added, "this strike was really a storm in a teacup. Management must accept some of the blame for it because the matter of working hours had not been fully explained."

Reacting to the reports reaching him on the stoppages the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, refuted a rumour of Government plans to nationalise pension funds thus causing workers to lose their contributions.

NO FOUNDATION

Saying that the rumour was "totally without foundation" he added: "The Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, has already given an assurance regarding the safety of civil service pensions and I now give a categorical assurance that all money paid into pension funds by workers are fully safeguarded."

He also said workers must observe the "laid-down procedure" when airing grievances over wages and other complaints.

"While the Government has given an undertaking to review the situation as soon as possible, nevertheless any precipitate action at this stage can only serve to damage the goodwill which has been built up between Government, the employees and their employers, and will inevitably have a crippling effect on industry.

"This in turn will have the effect of postponing any improvement in workers' conditions of service which might otherwise have taken place. I therefore urge employees not to take the law into their own hands, but rather to await the outcome of the Government's deliberations on future wages and industrial relations policy," Mr Kangai said.

In addition to [redacted] six cases of industrial unrest confirmed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, the Herald was told yesterday that between 350 and 400 workers at W. S. Craster (Pvt) Ltd in Salisbury returned to work hours after stopping in protest against pay and protective clothing conditions.

The managing director said they were persuaded to re-start work after being addressed by an official of the Engineering and Metal Workers' Union.

CSO: 4420

TINDLE: MAIZE PRICE WILL HAVE TO RISE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 1

[Text] The incoming Government will have to increase considerably the producer price of maize to encourage farmers to continue growing the crop, the chairman of the Commercial Grain Producers' Association, Mr Ted Tindle, said yesterday. He made this remark yesterday during a tour of a farm in the Gatooma area, where entire crops have been devastated by drought.

Mr Tindle said the present price of maize to farmers--$75 a tonne, plus a $5-tonne bonus for increasing hectarages by 15 percent this season--was not satisfactory.

He said the costs of producing the crop were escalating; fertilisers had recently risen by about 20 percent. "These are the costs we cannot continue to bear."

He pointed out that if the Government had to import maize the cost would be "enormous". Last August, the then Minister of Agriculture, Mr Bill Irvine, quoted a figure of $130 a tonne for yellow maize, landed in Salisbury.

Mr Tindle said it was well known that the country's maize supplies were low after the drought last year. Because of the further drought this season, the supply position was unlikely to improve.

Decision

Unless the producer price of maize was greatly increased, farmers would not be able to continue growing the grain--"their bank managers will not let them". Therefore the Government would be faced with a decision either to import supplies, "or put up the price of maize in this country, both to the farmer and the consumer.

"The price hike must be considerable if we are going to keep farmers growing the crop," said Mr Tindle.

He said the national maize crop this year was likely to be 30 percent down.

Turning to the subject of drought relief, he said ruined crops were to be seen from Hartley/Gatooma/Chakari through Glendale/ Concession, Mount Darwin, Cententary East, Bindura and Shamva (to name some of the areas), and no amount of rain this month could save them.

He indicated the supply of staple food could be in jeopardy unless drought relief were paid.

"We have toured the affected areas with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, and are trying to quantify the extent of the drought. When this has been done we will apply to the Treasury for relief."

Regarding a long-term plan to overcome drought, Mr Tindle said plans to build dams had been on the drawing boards for some time but their implementation had been hindered by the war.

CSO: 4420

ETHANOL PRODUCTION OPERATION REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 9

[Text] Bulawayo. It is "all systems go" at the Triangle Limited in the sugarcane Lowveld as construction engineers work at full speed to get Rhodesia's first ethanol plant commissioned by early next month.

"It is a tremendous achievement for local industry," the Deputy Secretary for Commerce and Industry, Mr Jimmy Walker, said yesterday.

"It is entirely a private enterprise project. If all goes well, we will have a national blend of ethanol and petrol by the middle of May."

No Government money is involved in the project, Mr Walker said.

"We put pressure on them to look into the project, and have encouraged them, the company, all along and accepted the responsibility to buy the product. But there is no Government money whatsoever in it."

The plant had been designed locally, he said.

"All sorts of committees have been looking into the suitability of the proposed national blend in motor vehicle engines," Mr Walker said. "A variety of vehicles have been running on it for some time."

More statements and hand-outs would be made before the national blend was on sale. These would advise people what problems might occur and how to deal with them, he said.

To date the plant has cost "just under $4 000 000", the managing director of Triangle Ltd. Mr David Bromfield, said.

"We are planning to go into full production as soon as we start."

He declined to disclose the production capacity.

"The official opening will be early in June," he said.

Last week a local oil company said the national blend would consist of 84 percent regular grade petrol, 15 percent ethanol and 1 percent benzol.

CSO: 4420

GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC FAILURES HAVE POLITICAL EFFECTS

London WEST AFRICA in English 10 Mar 80 pp 431-433

[Text]

FOR HOW LONG can the present political leadership in Senegal survive in order to salvage the economic wreckage that it is seen to have brought upon the country and to shore up some of the now very obvious cracks in the unity of the ruling Parti Socialiste? This year Senegal will have more shortages; the groundnut harvest has failed again; foreign revenue will be in short supply; industry will stagnate, the chronic balance of payments deficits will be aggravated; inflation will continue. The accumulated effect of ten years — since the first years of the droughts — of this sort of economic performance is now beginning to show itself politically. The people in the cities are resentful, the peasant is refusing to co-operate with the government. Student unrest is simmering and the intellectual opposition — castigated by the President as "crypto-personal" — is beginning to show signs of uniting and being taken more seriously by the government. Perhaps the most important element in the Senegalese crisis is evidence that a lack of social cohesion in the ruling Parti Socialiste is beginning to have serious ramifications in the social and political structure of the country.

Indicative of the government's plight is the extent to which it will put before the public visions of plenty to lure them away from the shortages of the present. In Senegal, the escape route has been the OMVS — Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Senegal. With a great fanfare, last December, the Heads of State of Mali, Senegal and Mauritania, the member states of the OMVS, laid the first stone of the Diama Dam situated some 200km. up river from St. Louis. The event was portrayed as the first step in the transformation of the Senegal River Basin into the bread-basket of the country. At a rally in Dakar, to celebrate this occasion, it was noted that busloads of Toucouleur from the Fleuve region — coming to the city for the first time in their lives — had been transported to Dakar to be informed of the good work that was being done for them. The opposition seized on the event to note that the government was now resorting to ethnic support to complement its dwindling popularity elsewhere in the country. It is also seen as a belated effort to woo the populations of the regions along the Senegalese frontier — areas which hold the greatest economic potential for the country, but which have been ignored to a large extent by the government since independence.

What has not been mentioned, and is a matter of some embarrassment to the government, is that the work on the Diama Dam has not even begun. In a meeting last November, the Arab donors made it clear that they would not continue with their promise of delivering credits for the projects until there was evidence that the investment would be valorised. The Kuwaitis, in turn, decided that they would withhold their contribution until the requirements for both the Diama and the Manantali Dams had been met. At present, the Manatali Dam in Mali has not acquired the necessary financing and there is little

chance that Mali would find it acceptable that work begin on the Diama Dam which will benefit only Senegal and Mauritania. Now that the Arab donors have started setting conditions, uncertainty has been created among other donors.

People involved on the OMVS scheme are not optimistic. It is only now that research is being conducted into the agricultural, sociological, environmental and legal consequences of the dam construction. The displacement of populations and the ensuing pressure on land tenure is an unresolved problem. It was only two months ago that the Senegalese government called upon the UN to provide population specialists to do studies on the area. Senegal stands to gain 200,000 hectares of irrigated land from the OMVS, but it will be many years before a sufficient proportion is reclaimed to have the effect on the Senegalese economy that the government intends.

Austerity

With this knowledge in mind — the Senegalese have to face a much more immediate crisis. Already the government has imposed an austerity programme, dictated partly by the IMF and the World Bank. Investment and imports have been severely reduced. Prices of basic commodities like bread, palm oil and sugar have gone up; in the case of sugar over 50 per cent. Salaries (34 per cent in the public service and 25 per cent in industry) have been raised to bring at least some meaning into the purchasing power of the Senegalese. In mid-February, the Assembly voted in an increase of 6bn. CFA francs into the budget to meet these new expenses, raising the budget to 110bn. CFA francs. Financially the government is in serious difficulty. The balance of payments deficit was 20.1bn. CFA francs ($87m.) in 1978 and it was estimated that in 1979 it would drop by 12 per cent. There is no likelihood of Senegal extricating itself from this situation for at least another ten years. The deficit in foreign reserves last year was $294.1m. and the debt service of the government was 22bn. CFA francs in 1979 ($107.8m.) as opposed to 8.5bn CFA francs in 1975. The trade deficit last year was 51bn. CFA francs ($254.7m.). The debt includes 20bn. CFA francs owed to private enterprises which was used to pay public service salaries while payments from the French Treasury, under the conditions of the franc zone system, rose to 18bn. CFA francs in December of last year. A further 19bn. CFA francs are owed to the IMF. As a result, the Banque Centrale des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, the UMOA issuing bank, has restricted transfers while banks in Senegal are being asked to persuade their clients, mostly foreign and French, to double their deposits. This would provide an additional 16bn. CFA francs in domestic savings. The IMF has now stepped in to impose certain conditions. The austerity budget is one consequence. It is feared in business circles that there will be a rash of bankruptcies among smaller businesses in the coming months.

Groundnuts

Senegal's problems can be measured, in one sense, by the fact that this year's revenue from groundnuts will not cover the costs of petroleum imports which will rise to 44bn. CFA francs. While measures are being taken to impose restrictions on imports, it is the growing question mark that hangs over the future of the groundnut in Senegal that is exercising many an official mind. In a good year production is around 1m. tonnes. This year it is expected to be 400,000 tonnes, and even this estimate may have to be lowered with the news that some abnormal rainfall has affected the late harvests. The two previous seasons have been equally disappointing; 315,000 tonnes in 1977/78 and 668,000 tonnes in 1978/79. Last year, in an effort to improve productivity the producer price was raised from 41,500 CFA francs to 45,000 CFA francs per tonne. It had been calculated that in 1978 there was a 50 per cent drop in the purchasing power of the groundnut producer. The figures for the annual value of groundnut production indicate that in spite of last year's increase, groundnut revenue is having trouble keeping up with inflation. Between 1976 and 1979, groundnut revenues fluctuated wildly: 1976, 60bn. CFA francs; 1977, 49.6bn.; 1978, 25.7bn. and in 1979 the revenue was 44.4bn. CFA francs.

To add to the government's problems, world prices for groundnuts and groundnut products show a general decline and there is little prospect of improvement.

The severity of the crisis has in some cases lead to a rural revolt against government methods. Farmers were antagonised last year when the government refused to provide them with seeds until they had reimbursed a suitable proportion of their debts. A careful reading of the *Soleil*, Senegal's only daily and an ardent supporter of the government and the President, shows constant reports on districts where debts have still to be reimbursed and with little sign that the peasants will give in. This resulted recently in the Minister of Rural Development, M. Djibril Sene, accusing peasants of being *incivique* — lacking in civic spirit. Peasants have complained that the seeds that were supplied were not of good quality; a complaint of the latest harvest has been the low quality of product. Finally, there has been a marked shift towards food production.

People who follow Senegalese agricultural policies and performance may differ in some of their technical advice and interpretation, but they are unanimous on one thing: that Senegal, today, could be producing sufficient food to meet national requirements. How is it therefore that Senegal had just announced that it needs 280,000 tonnes of emergency food relief? A team of experts which came in to assess the country's needs reduced the official estimate by half. There are those who believe that there are sufficient stocks kept by peasant households to match this year's shortfall and that, therefore, there is no need for emergency relief. Last year, ONCAD, the national marketing agency, bought up a 100,000 tonnes surplus of millet and sorghum. By late February it was known to have been unable to sell at least 50,000 tonnes destined for the urban market. With at least 70 per cent of the population occupied in agricultural activities, this sector remains the major concern. The rise in phosphate prices and signs of increased production from the Taibo reserves offer hopes. Fishing is now receiving greater attention and could certainly become a major source of revenue for the economy while tourism continues to be encouraged. The present crisis reveals, however, two areas that are in desperate need of reform. Both are closely linked to the structure of political power in Senegal; the first is the reform of organisation of agriculture and the second, concerns regional policies.

For several years ONCAD, Office Nationale pour la Coopération et Aide au Développement, has been the object of criticism. This reached a head last year when it was revealed that enormous amounts of money had been embezzled at several levels of the organisation by its agents. Now the government promises that there will be reforms, to be announced by the Minister of Rural Development in April. Already, it is certain that co-operatives will cease to be the responsibility of ONCAD whose pervasive influence has turned co-operatives into mere shells offering little communal incentive to the peasants. They will now be under the Ministry of Rural Development. It will require a massive effort and show of goodwill from the government to overcome the suspicion of the peasant. The new policy is a return to the ideas propounded by Mamadou Dia, the Président du Conseil of Senegal until 1963, who was imprisoned for allegedly attempting to overthrow the government.

The bureaucratic muddle which has relegated the socialism in Senegal's agriculture to the realm of the imagination has been both cause and effect of the dangerous centralisation which has seen the Senegalese economy, 20 years after independence, still dependent on groundnuts for almost half its export revenue. That has also meant that interest and investment has gone into the so-called groundnut basin of Senegal. Once one includes the groundnut processing industry, this area accounts for some 65 per cent of Senegal's revenue. It also has the largest concentration of people out of the Cap Vert Region. With a population of some 2.5m. the groundnut basin is now over-populated but still attractive to many from outside the area. There is now a breakdown in the system of land tenure with holdings becoming single-family concerns instead of the traditional communal structure. To aggravate the issue, yield and quality of production have fallen. This has left the Fleuve region seriously under developed, and in spite of some efforts now to develop

some perimeters, it will be some time before this region will benefit fully from the OMVS programmes. The other area of immense potential which could be realised much sooner is Casamance. There also, the government has been neglectful so much so that the relative success of local co-operatives on the Casamance can be attributed to the lack of official presence. The region is well watered and yet there is a substantial migration towards Dakar. Senegal Oriental, another region that is always regarded as having "major agricultural potential" is also described as a "region of forgotten people".

For a country where one of the most popular phrases is the "maitrise de l'eau", the mastery of water supply, it is a remarkable fact that those areas where this could have been achieved, and thereby giving the country the breathing space to apply itself to the matters of economic development, have been ignored. At present, much to the chagrin of the Senegalese population, it is they and not those responsible who are paying for these errors.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

NEW LEFTIST MONTHLY JOURNAL--A new leftist monthly journal [title not given] published its first edition last Saturday. In a long editorial, this monthly journal revealed the political guidelines within which it will operate. The editorial signed by the editor of this journal states that this new information organ will try to discuss the problems of the countries of the African continent in general from a Marxist-Leninist perspective which will permit its readers a correct view of African problems. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 4 Mar 80 p 8]

CSO: 4401

PRESIDENT VISITS GBANGATOKE DURING SOUTHERN PROVINCE TOUR

London WEST AFRICA in English 10 Mar 80 p 461

[Text]

President Stevens paid a visit to Gbangbatoke, a former SLPP stronghold and hometown of former Prime Minister Sir Albert Margai, now exiled in Britain, during a tour of parts of the Mayamba and Bo Bonthe districts, Southern Province. The President also visited the rutile and bauxite mines.

Paramount Chief Sam Margai, brother of the former Prime Minister, told the President that although his area was traditionally an SLPP stronghold, the people had changed and now supported the one-party system. "Only God and fools do not change," he declared.

The Paramount Chief thanked Dr. Stevens for building the Gbangbatoke-Sembehun road and the restoration of the bus services to Gbangbatoke. He said that, in response to the nationwide self-help trend, the people of his chiefdom have launched a fund-raising drive to develop the area. Taxpayers have agreed to pay an additional Le2 which will amount to Le6,000, while women have agreed to contribute Le1, which it is envisaged will fetch in Le7,000.

At the rutile mines at Mobimbi, President Stevens was received by the vice-president of Sierra Rutile, Mr David Fraser and the general manager, Mr. Donald Young.

Mr. Young told the President that the anticipated rutile deposits total about 150m. tons — 88m. tons of this crude ore is in the Mogbwemo group deposits and 65m. tons in the Lanti deposits. The current annual target of exploitable deposits when the mines are operating at full design capacity will total 6½m. tons of rutile ore.

The company's personnel and administrative superintendent, Mr. M. H. Bakarr, himself a geologist, gave a brief run down of the company's welfare support services to the communities in the neighbouring towns and villages bordering on the mine's concessions. These, he said, include financial grant for the development of educational institutions, provision of medical services and the supply of drugs for health clinics at an annual expenditure of $140,000; immunisation programmes for both children and adults, and the encouragement of fertile fishing ponds in the company's dam sites and artificial lakes.

At the bauxite mines at Mokan Ji, about 15 miles from Sierra Rutile, the acting general manager of the bauxite mining company — SIEROMCO — told President Stevens that since mining operations started 17 years ago over 8m. tons of washed ore have been shipped from the nearby port of Nitti to Germany, Canada and the United States — 640,000 tons of bauxite, he reported, was shipped in 1979. The acting general manager said the company was in the process of installing a $5m. bauxite dryer which should dry the bauxite before shipment and thus yield higher prices in the market. He said that 23 out of the 39 senior staff were Sierra Leoneans. The life of the mine can be rated as seven years and average annual production is put at 750,000 tons.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

AIRLINK WITH USSR--The Russian Ambassador to Sierra Leone, Mr Alexander Virozhtsov, has said that the possibility of establishing an air service between Sierra Leone and the Soviet Union is to be explored. He also said that the Soviet Ministry of Maritime Affairs is to cooperate with Sierra Leone in the training of Sierra Leoneans. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 10 Mar 80 p 461]

CHINESE PHYSICIANS EXPECTED--A new team of Chinese medical doctors will arrive in Sierra Leone shortly to replace the team which has been operating in hospitals in Magburaka since 1975. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 10 Mar 80 p 461]

CSO: 4420

SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENT SEIZED IN DURBAN IN APRIL

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] A cargo of Russian-made tanks and ammunition was taken off the French freighter Astor in Durban last April.

The cargo of ten tanks and 150 tons of ammunition was loaded in Libya and was to be put ashore in Mombasa for transhipment to Uganda.

South African seizure of the cargo has come to light through the seizure of a French ship in Libya as hostage over the seized cargo.

An Armscor spokesman said in Pretoria yesterday that it had been unloaded in Durban by arrangement with the ship's master after information had been received that it was destined for Swapo in Angola.

According to an Associated Press report from London, the tanks and ammunition were ordered from Libya by the ousted Ugandan dictator, Idi Amin.

But the Astor, owned by the French company Marseille-Fret, arrived on April 11--the day Amin's regime fell.

Kenyan authorities turned the vessel back. It went to refuel in Durban where the arms were confiscated by Armscor, which gave a receipt and an undertaking to pay both for the arms and the freight charges.

Now Le Rove, another of the French company's ships, is being held in Benghazi because the Libyan Government says Armscor is not paying enough.

CSO: 4420

BOTHA'S STATES CONFERENCE PART OF CONSTELLATION PLAN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 80 p 6

[Editorial: "States Conference"]

[Text]

THE PRIME MINISTER, Mr P W Botha, has the media, both here and abroad, speculating on his announcement last weekend that Blacks, Whites and Brown people will meet in a "States conference" to decide on matters affecting South Africa.

Our own view is that this is the Council of States (Staatsberaad) which formed part of his Constellation of States concept, with South Africa, independent Black States, and the homelands discussing matters of mutual concern.

But if Mr Botha is taking this a step further, by including local Black and Brown leaders, it would be an excellent extension of his consultative plan.

However, the liberal Press here is wrong in suggesting that what Mr Botha has in mind may be some sort of NP-style national convention.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has pointed out that there is no resemblance between the discussions the Government contemplates and the national convention of the PFP.

The Government, he says, proposes discussions with the constitutional authorities of the nations and independent States of Southern Africa to bring a confederation into being.

The PFP, on the other hand, intends to invite to its convention anyone, including those who put themselves forward as leaders and threaten confrontation, to draw up a new constitution for the Republic.

This is definitely not what the NP has in mind.

Meanwhile, from all sides there have been suggestions as to which Black leaders should be involved in discussions with the Government, the names ranging from Nelson Mandela to Dr Nthato Motlana.

We cannot see the one being released or the other wanting to take part in any discussions, since he has already refused to serve on one of Dr Piet Koornhof's committees inquiring into the future of urban Blacks.

The simple fact is that if there were to be any consultations with a Mugabe-style leader, it wouldn't be with any of the Blacks inside South Africa, but with the men with the guns outside.

There is not the remotest chance of this.

It is the "States conference," the Council of States, as contemplated by the Prime Minister, which will have to decide matters concerning South Africa.

With Blacks, Coloureds, Indians and Whites, as the Prime Minister says, having a share in the Government's constitutional plans.

This is a far cry from the days when the White Government imposed its will on people of colour without consulting them.

We welcome the Prime Minister's talk-with-others idea wholeheartedly, even though it does not meet with the support of the hands-up, hand-over-now section of the Press and the Opposition.

CSO: 4420

SADF ROLE IN PROPOSED CONSTELLATION DISCUSSED

Pretoria PARATUS in Afrikaans Feb 80 pp 24-26, 52

[Unattributed Article: "The Role of the South African Defense Force in a Constellation of States in Southern Africa"]

[Excerpts] In connection with the announcement of Mr P.W. Botha, prime minister and minister of defense and national security, relative to a constellation of Southern African nations, it is fitting at this time to give a summary selection of several aspects of the role the South African Defense Force (SADF) may be playing within this constellation. Although it is still impossible to mark off the borders of the proposed constellation, it should in the first place include all nations that share a common border with the Republic of South Africa (RSA). In the second place, even such countries as Angola, Zambia and Malawi might find it to their great advantage to become members of the constellation. These countries are indeed part of a geographical unit which includes all the nations of Southern Africa.

One of the most important requirements for such a constellation of nations is that between, and even within, the various communities, order, stability and security will be constantly maintained. Stability and security, however, result not from internal factors alone; external factors play just as important a role. Whereas during the late sixties and early seventies the RSA was able to aid the so-called buffer states in counteracting the influences of Marxist expansionism, the picture has radically changed since then.

National Security and Total Strategy

Because the RSA is involved in a situation of total war, it goes without saying, in fact, that an overall strategy must be developed in order to guarantee national security. In all-out warfare no restrictions are placed on the means used by the

aggressor, no holds are barred in the scope of his activities. Thus aggressors do not limit themselves to military operations, but carry out many others that cut through political, economic, social and cultural domains. General Malan identifies two areas whence total war proceeds; namely: "International Communism and its satellites on the one hand and no less a body than the Western World with its humanistic fellow-travelers on the other." The goal, indeed, is to deprive the RSA of its sovereignty and to force it to surrender the lands in question by means of increased pressure and terrorist activities.

Let no one be under the illusion that this pressure is aimed at just one part of the population. It is brought to bear irrespective of the person. Neither must one expect that any of the Western nations will hasten to the aid of the RSA if, for example, it threatened by an attack from the communist bloc. This is a second aspect over which no illusion must exist. If one reflects, furthermore, that the United Nations, which is supposed to maintain world peace, and as yet has nothing to its credit on that score, allows even terrorist organizations (SWAPO, the Patriotic Front and the PLO, for example) to acquire observer status, all the more reason to realize that the RSA itself merits such status. In order to carry out an overall strategy, the Government must use all available means to counteract this war situation.

While on the long term a conventional military attack against the RSA cannot be left entirely out of the picture, it makes no sense to relegate the role played by the SADF in the purely conventional sense, to the back burner, even temporarily. On the contrary, total war implies not only a conventional threat from outside the nation's borders; a war of insurrection is already in progress at home, and the fires of unrest are being kindled for the overthrow of law and order. The aim is to create a situation which will brand the RSA as a threat to world peace, and this label then justifies violent intervention, with the intent to take over the Government of the RSA. The leadership manifested by the present prime minister, the stress he lays on better race relationships, and the new political dispensations that will be established in the future for the various groups within the RSA are part of the total strategy. They must necessarily bring about a change in the attitude of the Western nations and also of certain African nations.

In this new order of things, where the total strategy can be expanded in order to include member nations within the constellation as well, the SADF has, among others, the following roles to play:

1) It must at all times maintain a high degree of preparedness in order on the one hand to serve as a deterrent for potential aggressors and on the other as an important stabilizing factor for the Government of the day. The preparedness must, however, be reliable and must be proven in both word and deed. Concerning the Army's preparedness, there can be no illusions. The SADF must indeed be able to serve as a model for the armed forces of the various member nations.

2) After the schools, the technical institutes and the universities, the SADF is certainly one of the most important teaching organizations in the RSA. Recruits spend a period of 18 months to two years under its wing, where they are trained in a multitude of jobs and skills--in many instances highly specialized ones--in order to guarantee the nation's security. Why couldn't member nations be included in this training as well, on a small scale, in selected skill areas and to the extend of the capacity of their various fighting- and support units?

3) The protection of civilians and of their peace of mind represent another important area in which the SADF plays an important part in making the members of the public and other institutions--both governmental and private--aware of national security. A prepared public is just as important as a prepared army, because the one comes to the aid of the other. This mutual support forms an important component of the total strategy and is just as applicable to the member nations of the proposed constellation.

The Role of the Army in Policy Formulation

Under the terms of the Defense Law of 1957, the duty of the SADF is ". . . to provide for the defense of the Republic and for matters related thereunto." Among other things, this implies that the SADF must guarantee to the Government of the day the necessary freedom of action to enable it to develop its foreign as well as its domestic policy in accordance with the dictates of discretion and the national security situation. Because it is the duty of the SADF to guarantee this freedom of action, it must necessarily also have a say in the formulation of foreign policy. Besides, the military point of view is relevant in determining any aspect of policy formulation that may exercise either a direct or an indirect influence on national security. From this it follows that Army officers are involved in the political process, and their political and social orientation may have an influence on policy formulation.

In the constellation of Southern African nations, the problem lies in particular with the formulation of foreign policy,

something entirely different from the situation that obtains in Western European nations, for example. Not only does the RSA consist of various population groups, each with its own culture, but its neighbors practice a number of different forms of government, varying from one-party states to Marxist systems. In addition, the position of South Africa can hardly be looked upon with favor within this constellation. If one excepts Rhodesia, Malawi, Bophuthatswana and Venda, the relations of the RSA with these nations are not normal, and a necessarily harmful effect on foreign relations is the result. Although this is a problem for the politicians, the question now is what role the SADF can play in the situation.

Adviser

Inasmuch as the SADF is part of the executive authority, it has a duty to implement the policy of the Government of the day. On this score there can be no doubt. There is, however, another important function; namely, that of adviser in matters relating to national security, where it is especially qualified to make contributions. In this role, the commander-in-chief of the Army and his senior staff advise the Government with respect to the military implications of a given line of foreign policy.

This important function places an extraordinarily heavy burden on the shoulders of the commander-in-chief of the SADF, for, where it had formerly exercised a purely military role, without sharing in the functions of the civil authority, today the SADF plays an integral part in maintaining national security. The two spheres of authority are in reality so closely intertwined that it is impossible nowadays to draw a clear line of demarcation between national security, political activity and the functions of the military. This in its turn implies that any members of the SADF who are used in an advisory capacity must not only be masters of military strategy, but must be able to evaluate the political situation in an authoritative manner, determine its relationship to the military situation and give the proper counsel needed.

Military Support in Nations within the Constellation

According to the most recent estimates, toward the end of 1977 there were at least 34,000 Russian and East-German "advisers" in Africa. With the addition of the Cubans the figure is now believed to be about 45,000 or even more. Earlier in this article mention was made of the financial extent to which the Russians were involved in an arms buildup, especially in Angola, Mozambique, and to a lesser extent in Zambia as well. Particularly significant is the 1980 American program of aid to Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia, which is being set up in those

countries, in the face of the predictable increase in the presence of Russians and Cubans there. At this stage, however, the extent of these programs is not known; all we really have is speculation. We cannot ignore the possibility that they may chiefly serve to further military objectives.

Communication

Although it must not be the policy of the RSA to compete with the USA or Russia as far as military support is concerned, there are various fields, for example, to which consideration can be given even now. In the first place, the emphasis must fall on communism. How can we expect to work in cooperation with these countries if we do not understand the way they do things? Thus, for example, the SADF must have among its personnel people with a good command of the languages of the neighboring countries and an understanding of the culture and traditions of their inhabitants. Through communication, exchanges can take place, and these are an important prerequisite for cooperation and the establishment of sound mutual relations. Such relationships are already in effect between independent homelands, but they must be expanded to ultimately include all the member-nations of the constellation. The South African Army can play a particularly important role in this expansion.

Is it not high time for the commander-in-chief to make contact with his counterpart in a given neighboring country, even if only to set up a basis for dialog? For example, the respective commanders of the North Transvaal and the Natal Commands could establish contact with their counterparts in Mozambique. Similarly the commanders of the various military sectors in Namibia could make contact with their counterparts. What is urgently needed today is a feeling of mutual confidence which will form a basis for healthy relationships between peoples. This notion has already been repeatedly emphasized by the prime minister of the RSA. Without this kind of trust, the constellation cannot be completely successful. The SADF, and in particular the South African Army, is already setting an excellent example with respect to what can be done in the establishment of good relations, by way of its civilian affairs program; but still more can be expected.

In the second place the SADF is still maintaining and in fact constantly expanding its professional image.

In the third place a constellation of nations, in addition to its other obligations, must foster a mutual spirit of good neighborship; it is also obvious that an enemy common to all must be fought jointly, by all concerned.

In the fourth place one must keep in mind that the RSA has had no military alliance with any other power since its withdrawal from the Simonstad Agreement, and indeed it follows a policy of non-alliance.

In the fifth place one must ask whether the time is not now ripe for the RSA to begin to do its best to establish a Southern African Treato Organization (SAVO), whose objective would be to defend the constellation of Southern African states? What we have particularly in mind is the strategic importance of such an organization in the East-West power struggle, and the leading role to be played therein by the RSA, and especially its Defense Force, in cooperation with the defense forces of its neighbors within the constellation. Turning back the communist offensive is one of the highest priorities of the RSA, and SAVO can be one of the best means for combatting this offensive.

Summary

The foregoing discussion has revealed a number of different areas in which the SADF can make, and in some cases is already making, a vital contribution. With the addition of Colored, Indian and black members to its leadership cadres, it can only be further strengthened. It is also true, however, that further expansion will place an ever heavier burden on the SADF, in terms of both manpower and military discipline. Although it is the function of the SADF to guarantee national security, it also has an educative mission which offers challenges equally great. These functions, in due time and as far as the political situation will permit, can be extended to all countries within the Southern African constellation. Southern Africa will be able to make its influence as an entity truly felt in the world community, once SAVO has become a reality. In its turn, SAVO can itself become part of a larger constellation, which would include, for example, Australia, New Zealand, and the various nations of South America.

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PRP-NRP UNITY TALKS BREAK DOWN OVER DIFFERENCES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 80 pp 1, 2

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text] Cape Town--Talks between the NRP and PFP on establishing a unified Opposition collapsed yesterday.

The New Republic Party of Mr Vause Raw refused to compromise on its policy of ethnic identity and political rights within a constitutional system; protection of minority groups from domination and local option in regard to residential areas and amenities.

Mr Raw, leader of the NRP said in a statement yesterday that his caucus considered the policies to be so fundamental to NRP philosophy and principles as to preclude any possibility of a single unified opposition.

"Continued discussions with the PFP would thus be fruitless, and I have instructed my contact committee accordingly," Mr Raw said.

The contact group of the NRP and PFP investigated the extent of common ground between the two parties on philosophy and principles.

Mr Raw said whilst agreement was found on a wide area of general principles, such as the need for a negotiated constitution, decentralisation of political control and elimination of discrimination, the NRP was not prepared to sacrifice its policy regarding ethnic identity.

The contact group said in its report that as a guideline for consensus, issues were evaluated on the basis of acceptability to more than 50 percent of each party's supporters.

In general, the NRP's differences were not over whether there should be a society free of discrimination or domination, in which all South Africans were entitled to participate in the democratic process, but rather over the methods needed to achieve this.

Points of agreement included:

--A negotiated constitution. Any future constitution must be the end product of free negotiations between all groups and communities. Points of difference emerged in regard to the method of negotiation, but there appeared to be no insuperable or substantial differences of principle.

--Sharing of political power. As a major general principle it was agreed that the present system must be replaced by a system of shared political power.

● Decentralisation of political control. Both parties accept the principle of decentralisation of political power.

● General principles. There was agreement on the following: Full citizenship for all South Africans; One citizenship and a single loyalty; A free and independent judiciary; Elimination of all statutory discrimination; Respect for and guarantee of civil liberties; No domination of any one group by any other; Homelands desiring independence should be allowed to have it, and a less authoritarian control, Press control, Radio/TV propaganda, freedom of association, freedom of political affiliation, trade unions, trading rights, etc.

Differences were:

● Federation/Confederation: The PFP believed in a geographic federation, with both State and Federal legislatures being elected directly by voters on a common roll, with general franchise and proportional representation. The NRP believe in a federation in the common geographical area shared by Whites, Coloureds, Indians and non-Homeland Blacks on a basis of group Parliaments with powers of taxation. Representation in the Federal parliament would be determined by negotiation between the groups.

● Minority protections: The NRP believed the minorities would be protected through the group structure of the Federation, i e a political power base for each. The PFP favours protections incorporated in the constitution: i e Consensus government, minority veto; Bill of rights; geographic decentralisation; rigid constitution, and proportional representation.

● Residential areas, public facilities, etc: While both parties agreed that the ultimate aim should be a society free of discrimination, the NRP believed that local option should be allowed at local authority level to permit segregated as well as open residential areas/facilities which was not acceptable to the PFP, whose Bill of rights would prevent any group or community from establishing segregated and exclusive residential areas under any law or ordinance.

Professor Willem Kleynhans, well-known political commentator said he believed that there was never a chance of the PFP and NRP merging.

What they should rather do, instead of finding common political grounds, was to come to a definite agreement on which party would contest what seat in coming elections.

The only chance the Opposition would ever have of increasing their number of seats would be to enter into election pacts in order to avoid "killing each other" by splitting Opposition votes, he said.

CSO: 4420

ASSOCOM DOCUMENT COMMENTS ON REIKERT RECOMMENDATIONS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 80 p 3

[Text]

IF the recommendations of the Riekert commission on influx control were fully implemented, they would drive a wedge between urban and rural Blacks, according to the Association of Chambers of Commerce of South Africa.

In a document submitted during a meeting with Cabinet Ministers in Cape Town last week and released in Johannesburg yesterday, Assocom says it agrees with the commission that the uncontrolled migration of Blacks to urban areas would give rise to serious social and welfare problems.

However, it feared that the measures proposed by the commission — and now implemented — would not solve those problems and were likely to give rise to further "distortions in the labour market" and to other dangerous economic and socio-political problems.

They were also likely to result in substantially increased unemployment in the rural areas and Black states.

"This factor is of particular significance in Natal because the borders of that province encompass the whole of the Black state of KwaZulu."

The document also says the present system of Black labour bureaux should be terminated and official employment services established for all race groups under one Government department.

Assocom says the Riekert commission had suggested that Black labour bureaux should still fall under the control of the Administration Boards acting as agents for the Department of Manpower Utilisation, so effectively maintaining the complete separation of employment services on a racial basis. — Sapa.

CSO: 4420

GAZUNKULU CHIEF MINISTER CITES RHODESIA LESSON

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 80 p 9

[Text]

GIYANI. — Refusal to effect meaningful change and co-existence "hardened the spirit of men and led to polarisation of interests and racialism," Gazankulu's Chief Minister, Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi, said yesterday.

Speaking during the official opening of the fourth session of the third Gazankulu Legislative Assembly, he said South Africa could not afford "such luxury" and events in Rhodesia should serve as a lesson to South Africa.

He said: "I still believe that what is of importance in Southern Africa is the universal acceptance of the interdependence of Black and White, and that if this continues to influence the minds of men we can adapt and move towards a common goal.

"We have noted with appreciation the message of good neighbourliness from Mr Mugabe, Prime Minister-designate of Zimbabwe. We pray that events change and bring everlasting peace to this sub-continent."

Referring to the Wiehahn and Riekert commissions, Prof Ntsanwisi said the reports would improve human relationships and manpower utilisation in the country — but only if they were fully applied.

He was aware of the Prime Minister's desire to involve the private sector in the development of the Black states of South Africa.

But, he said, much effort was still required to crystalise those ideas and make them real.

"We plead with the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, to move forward and work towards a form of government which will remove all forms of legislation which discriminates on the basis of race and colour."

He said Mr Botha should provide for a democratic system in which the political, social and economic rights of the individual were catered for and protected regardless of racial and ethnic groups.

Referring to the consolidation of the homelands, Prof Ntanwisi said his government maintained that the four blocks of land comprising Gazankulu should be retained.

The uprooting of settled communities in any of the blocks for the purpose of consolidation was "completely unacceptable" by his government.

"In our view, the consolidation of Gazankulu should achieve the following objectives — the linking up of the four blocks so that they form one contiguous geographic unit, and the accommodation of as many of its people as possible within its expanded borders." — Sapa.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

EXPECTED REVENUE SURPLUS--Total government revenue should be at least R800-million more than Minister Horwood estimated in his 1979/80 budget. According to the Treasury's statement of revenue for the first 10 months ending January 31, total revenue (including the SWA account) is R8 120,6-million compared with R6 847-9-million for the same period last year. In January itself, collections totalled R955,3-million which if taken as a monthly average, will push total revenue up to R10 031-million by the year end, March 31. This is R801-million higher than the 1979 budget estimate. Taking into account that February and March are seasonally very good months for receipts of government revenue because of heavy tax payments, the surplus above the budgeted figure could well surpass R1 000-million. In January, income tax receipts totalled R444,6-million, 46 percent of total revenue. This brings tax receipts for the year so far to R3 905-million and, on January's figures, the year's total will be R497,2-million higher than the budgeted estimate of R4 297-million. Based on January figures, general sales tax will bring in at least R150-million more than the budgeted R1 150-million. To January 31, total receipts are already R1 040,4-million and the predicted increase in consumer spending should give the government an excess of about R170-million over the GST estimate.--Alec Hogg [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 80 p 15]

DROUGHT DAMAGE IN NATAL--Durban.--Natal farmers are in the grip of one of the worst droughts in memory and unless rain falls soon there could be serious crop and stock losses. Some farmers in parts of Zululand and the Natal midlands are so desperate that they have emptied swimming pools for water for household use. Total maize and vegetable crop failures are predicted in northern Natal and the midlands unless good rains fall this month. Thousands of hectares of vegetables are wilting in the heat. The drought is severe in Zululand and sugarcane has suffered badly. Farmers in the midlands are using winter silage to keep stock alive and they predict a bleak winterfeed position. It is feared that the lack of winter feed will seriously affect milk production. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 80 p 5]

ANC ACTIVITY IN LESOTHO--Incitement of Blacks by members of the banned ANC operating from Lesotho was spotlighted in the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday when the 1979 Orlando West High School head prefect, Setanani Segone, stood trial under the Internal Security Act. Exhibits included banned books and ANC leaflets. Setanani (21), was found guilty by the magistrate, Mr J.L. de Villiers on charges of furthering the aims of the ANC and of being a member of the ANC and sentenced to two years' imprisonment on the first count and one year on the second. Setanani was sent to school in Lesotho after the Soweto riots. According to a confession handed to court in 1978, he met a man "who gave us lectures on the ANC and on firearms and told us that the ANC would take us abroad for education and military training. "Then, we were told, we would come back to fight the Government of this country because those in the Government were our enemies." After passing matric he returned to Soweto. At a music festival in Lesotho last September he was given instructions to form an ANC cell in South Africa. Three witnesses testified they were given terrorism-type books by Setanani. Mr G. Thiart prosecuted. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 80 p 3]

KOORNHOF ON CONSOLIDATION PROPOSALS--The total consolidation proposals for independent as well as national states will be announced simultaneously, hopefully before the end of the current session of Parliament. This was announced in Cape Town yesterday by the Minister of Cooperation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, in reaction to enquiries regarding border adaptations affecting the Republic of Bophuthatswana. The Minister said Venda and Bophuthatswana had, at the request of the Cabinet, been given priority treatment by the commission investigating consolidation and were studied in isolation from other areas. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 80 p 8]

MOVEMENT OF BLACK WORKERS--Legislation would be introduced "as soon as practicable" to permit Black workers to move from one urban area to another without express permission, the Deputy Minister of Co-operation, Dr G. De V. Morrison, said yesterday. Replying to a question by Dr Alex Boraine (PFP Pinelands), Dr Morrison said the movement of Black persons from one urban area to another would still have to be subject to the availability of employment and approved housing. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 80 p 8]

FREEDOM FOUNDATION NAME CHANGE--The Southern African Freedom Foundation--one of the organisations named during the Information debacle as having received Government financing--is to change its name. It will now be known as the Southern African Forum. This was announced by Mr G.S. Muller, a trustee of the organisation and senior deputy chairman of Nedbank, at a SAFF function last night. Mr Muller said the change was being made for three reasons: 1, to avoid confusion with any similar organisation; 2, because Southern African Forum is considered a more feasible name; 3, the old SAFF has been restructured and changing the name is part of the final restructuring. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 80 p 3]

CSO: 4420

FOREIGN FIRM WINS CONTRACT DESPITE LOWER BID

Kampala WEEKLY TOPIC in English 8 Feb 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] **A foreign-based transporting company is said to have smartly won a tender worth 9,200,000/- for the transportation of 10,000 tons of rice from Mombasa to Kampala.**

The job, according to those knowledgeable in the transport industry, could have been done much more cheaply by the Government-owned Transocean (Uganda) Ltd.

The 10,000 tons of rice is the first consignment of an expected 100,000 tons of foods that should reach the country by the middle of this month to alleviate food shortages that have prevailed for quite a while.

It is evident from "WEEKLY Topic" investigations that the alien firm that won the tender was not the lowest bidder for the contract.

Transocean did apply for the contract with an offer to transport the rice on any one of the three alternative routes at varrying costs, each of them cheaper than that quoted by the winning firm.

In fact one of the routes suggested by Transocean — Kilindini to Malaba and Malaba to Kampala by rail — would cut the transportation cost to as little as 4,264,253/50. The second alternative would reduce the cost to 7,114,479/75, and both cases the amount would include all expenses including handling, wharfage, rail freight, haulage, et cetra.

Besides Transocean's ability to offer a cheaper service, it is only proper that Ugandan firms should in this period of rehabilitation be availed with all available business to assist them to recover from the decline they suffered in Amin's era. Deals of this nature would certainly go a long way in rejuvinating such firms, but they are instead diverted to foreign firms!

Another point of interest is that Uganda's rail wagons used in ferrying coffee to Kenya have to remain idle there due to lack of loads for their return journey.

And yet goods that would have been transported in those wagons are being loaded on foreign-owned vehicles to be delivered in Uganda by road.

At least using Transocean would result in a saving on foreign exchange as part of the cost would be met in local currency.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

IDENTITY CARDS--In [illegible] battle against the illegal activities perpetuated by unemployed peop[illegible] ingering in the city, Kampala District commissioner Fred Iga, has a ne[illegible]rmula up his sleeve. He is going to introduce a system whereby all p[illegible]e working in Kampala hold uniform cards issued by his office. [Text [Kampala WEEKLY TOPIC in English 8 Feb 80 p 1]

MONEY WASTED IN CENSUS--Weeks after census day enormous piles of unused census material, printed at a cost running into several million shillings, lie in the stores of three printing firms in Kampala. According to informed sources, this surplus material includes no less than 50 million enumerators' forms. As if the overprinting locally was not enough wastage the exercise was duplicated abroad, using badly needed foreign exchange! This was only one aspect of bad planning. The other aspect is that less than half the vehicles ordered for the census exercise—lories, cars, pick-ups, motorcycles, and bicycles—could reach the country in time. Several of the few that arrived were reported stolen in a matter of days and the bikes just disappeared into thin air! One thing that the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development made no attempt to achieve was the economic planning of the census. [Photo caption] [Text] [Kampala WEEKLY TOPIC in English 8 Feb 80 p 1]

CSO: 4420

MOBUTU DELIVERS ADDRESS AT BELGIAN ACADEMY

AB141657 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1500 GMT 14 Mar 80 AB

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 13 Mar (AZAP)--The founding president of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and president of the republic, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, yesterday delivered at the Belgian Academy in Brussels an address which lasted almost one and a half hours and which was often interrupted by loud cheers. This took place in the presence of Prince Albert of Liege and Princess Paola, who represented the royal couple, and before many politicians, scientists, intellectuals and research workers--in short, the cream of the international community interested in African problems in general and Zairian problems in particular.

The head of state centered his address, which concerned democracy and power in Africa, on two main issues: The first concerned African problems in general and the second concerned the degree of democracy attained by the Republic of Zaire in the field of individual freedom recognized by the Zairian Constitution.

Concerning the first point, the head of state, who was visibly very relaxed, said that the problems of power and democracy were at the center of the serious crises being experienced by our modern societies in Africa or elsewhere. After criticizing the Western concept of power and democracy, the founding chairman of the Popular Movement of the Revolution stressed that each country has its realities and that it should be free to make its own choice. In this connection, he said that no society can serve as a model of democracy and that the main thing is to guarantee the freedom of the people. The head of state rejected the image attributed to the African leaders who are considered demagogues at the head of omnipresent and totalitarian parties. He affirmed that the African regimes draw their inspiration from the wisdom of their authenticity and have no right to plan the future of their countries by copying the former mother countries, whose mentalities are different from traditional African mentality.

Gen Mobutu Sese Seko talked at length about the Western multiparty system, which has given rise to coalition governments, and wondered whether such

political acrobatics are really conforming to the will of the people. He particularly stressed the political and social situation in the countries that have adopted this concept of democracy and added that as far as the maintenance of public order was concerned, one is not happy when one lives in anarchy. He said that one is not a democrat when one does anything one likes no matter how and when. Gen Mobutu Sese Seko fully explained the reasons which led the young African states to prefer a strong head of state in a presidential regime to divisions, frictions and intrigues in a parliamentary regime. In our countries, he said, the head of state is considered the guarantor of order, peace and the smooth functioning of the state institutions. He also talked about the place of the opposition in African society.

[AB141901] In this connection, the head of state repeated the main arguments he has always presented to his people, namely, that Africa is a world of juxtaposition and not of opposition and that, therefore, the free confrontation of ideas should take place within our discussion centers and not elsewhere. In this regard, he said that Africa, like Zaire, practices a democracy of dialog and not one of opposition.

Concerning Zaire in particular, the founding chairman of the Popular Movement of the Revolution narrated the story of the second republic's patient efforts to make Zaire a responsible state and a great nation in the heart of a great continent, where peace and unity again prevail. He explained the long quest which led Zaire to rediscover its own identity and presented the Popular Movement of the Revolution as an ideal framework for the education, training, information and orientation of the Zairian people. The head of state, who affirmed that the entire Zairian nation has been trained for the practice of true democracy, mentioned for example the degree of political maturity attained by the people, the election of most of the Political Bureau members 3 years ago and the election of the Legislative Council members and of the authorities of the territorial administrations, that is the zonal commissioners.

Concerning dialog within the Popular Movement of the Revolution, the head of state hailed the freedom of speech exercised during the congresses of the party. In this connection, he said that the leader must always listen to the advice of the wise but that he alone must make the final decision after taking everything into consideration. He explained the reasons that caused him to demand, during his 4 February address to the nation, that the Legislative Council amend certain articles of the constitution which placed him above the law and which, he stressed, were contrary to our authenticity.

The head of state finally talked about human rights. He criticized some countries which have a tendency to make observance of the letter and spirit of this notion--which Zaire supports anyway--a condition for aid. In fact, he said, it is the people who are penalized, because it is they who benefit from this aid. Concerning purely Zairian problems, General

Mobutu, after mentioning everything he has achieved since 24 November 1965, said that he has not built a single prison since his accession to power.

The head of state criticized some foreign news media which misrepresent Zairian realities by presenting to public opinion false and nonexistent situations which are pure imagination. The head of state asked his audience for understanding, not approval. Africa, he said, is now faced with essentially economic problems. Generally, he said, the African leaders are in full control of the affairs of their states and peoples.

CSO: 4400

AGREEMENT REACHED WITH BELGIUM ON FUNDS

Kinshasa ELIMA in French 24 Jan 80 pp 1,7

[Text] A special agreement was signed Tuesday in the Commisariat General for Planning by the Republic of Zaire, represented by citizen Bokana W'Ondangela, commissioner general for planning, and the Kingdom of Belgium, represented by Rittweger de Moor, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of that country in Zaire.

This special agreement which falls within the framework of Belgian-Zairian cooperation involves transfer funds which will be used for the financing of economic projects by Zairian banks.

This agreement was signed 2 months after the two parties had signed an agreement on counterpart funds of Belgian origin.

The Belgian diplomat and Zairian state official congratulated one another after the signing ceremony on the excellence of relations uniting the two countries.

Citizen Bokana placed particular emphasis on the importance of the Belgian contribution to the success of the "Mobutu Plan."

In another development, the commissioner general for planning chaired a meeting in the Kongolo Room of his department which was attended by members of the World Bank headed by Andre Gue, this bank's program director, and the Executive Council, represented by the heads of public departments and enterprises involved in projects financed by the above-mentioned group.

The experts of both delegations reviewed the various projects financed in Zaire by the World Bank.

The World Bank delegation, during some 3 days of negotiations, will have the mission of coordinating with the Department of Planning technical documents to be presented at the next meeting of the consultative group of this financial institution within the framework of the "Mobutu Plan." Yesterday, Zairian experts and those of the World Bank continued their work by examining district projects.

8143
CSO: 4400

PLANS FOR RENEWAL OF COUNTRY DISCUSSED

Dakar AFRICA in French Feb 80 pp 34-36

[Article by Attilio Gaudio]

[Text] The miracle of Zairian renewal which has been hoped for since the last Shaba war and the results of "the economic state of siege" imposed by the IMF [International Monetary Fund] and "friendly" Western countries have been a long time coming. The cancer which is eating away at society and the institutions of this bankrupt El Dorado seems to be stronger than the therapeutic action.

Execessive Moralization

President Mobutu understood this very well for, after having been the advocate of a return to African authenticity for his country, today he is making a final effort for collective moralization. We say "final" because, at the beginning of 1979, the "guide" had already recognized the urgent need for combatting the scourge of corruption. At the special session of the Makanda Kabobi Institute, he said: "This year must be the year of moralization. This is not a question of mere sta' ments to amuse the gallery: we must achieve it by all possible means." However, he certainly did not manage to achieve this goal. Then the government press and the MPR came up with the slogan: "Serve but not self-serve," without much success. At the start of 1980, the crisis had reached such a point that for the first time parliamentary debates were focused on the problem of the responsibility of state officials for the development of corruption.

The deputies, encouraged by Mobutu, prepared a list of all those "who have the habit of serving their own interests rather than those of the state" and who have paralyzed the machinery of state to the point of causing it to lose all credibility at the international level.

Institutionalized Corruption

For years there were deficit budgets, with revenues "getting lost" along the way, and the "zaire" (national currency) plummeting. Misappropriations of funds by Zairian ministers and frauds by the directors of nationalized companies and public enterprises, beginning with the governor of the Banque du Zaire, were institutionalized. The rest of the social corps followed suit, and Zaire became the "kingdom of the matabich" (bribe) and organized rackets. And to think that in 1965 Mobutu had said: "I give myself 5 years to accomplish my task. My only aspiration is to discipline the Congo before November 1970. I want to make it a country which will no longer be the laughing stock of the world, but rather a country which is esteemed and envied, no longer a Congo of disorder but a Congo which is taken seriousiy ...." The fact of the matter is that no effort was made, nor even conceived, in the next 15 years.

An Inflation Rate of 100 Percent Per Year

In a country with unheard of potential wealth, people have been allowed to literally die of hunger; and soldiers and policemen have been converted into bandits and thieves. Kinshasa has become the least secure capital on the continent and also the most expensive. According to the most recent reports of the World Bank and the official of the IMF mission, the West German expert, Mr Blumenthal, the rate of inflation is in the neighborhood of 100 percent per year; and Zaire's foreign indebtedness is $3.7 billion, the three principal creditors being the U. S. A. (23 percent), France (18 percent) and Italy (8.5 percent). What is more, a liter of gasoline has experienced a single-bound increase of 250 percent, causing a rise in the prices of public transportation and all the products being sold in the capital. In fact, the price of a sack of manioc (basic foodstuff of the Bacongo people) has increased twentyfold; a sack of peanuts threefold; a sack of rice fivefold; and a sack of cement has gone up 110 percent. Imports having been blocked by the International Monetary Fund and the club of "friendly countries" which have placed the Banque du Zaire and the ministry of finance under control, the stores in Kinshasa have been emptied, while the parallel traffic in foreign exchange and contraband have skyrocketed. In the meantime, the price of copper, Zaire's principal export product and its real source of revenues, collapsed.

In 1977, Mobutu had already sensed the gravity of this crisis and had issued his "Mobutu Plan" the day following the first Shaba war. It provided for the securing of sufficient international aid to permit a new policy of investments, establishment of infrastructures to prevent asphyxiation of the interior of the country and to provide the financial resources needed for the acquisition of the industrial supplies which were beginning to be lacking.

It was not until after the second invasion of former Katanga that the West, alarmed by the dramatic conditions under which Mobutu and his government were struggling, decided to intervene. Assembled in Brussels in January and November 1978, representatives of Belgium, France, the United States, Great Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Canada, Japan, Iran, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the EEC demanded, before any aid would be granted, democratization of the regime, a fight against corruption, administrative reorganization and a financial cleanup.

The president understood that it was necessary "to comply or perish," so he normalized relations with Angola, the USSR and with the GDR. He declared an amnesty for political exiles (partially applied); he restructured the mining sector; and he devalued the zaire 62.5 percent. The Western countries then granted $334 million ($128 million in 1979 and $206 million in 1980) to reduce the deficit in the Zairian balance of payments, in addition to special drawing rights accorded by the IMF and the promise of direct aid by Saudi Arabia.

The Roots of the Problem

Alas, the money did not suffice to change mentalities, as foreign aid cannot replace a political will to change internally. Without this will and sound men in authority, Zaire will remain at the bottom of the abyss; and a third Shaba war this time threatens to sweep everything away. The present "austerity cure" will have no lasting effect unless the Zairian authorities give themselves the absolute means for attacking the roots of the problem.

For the IMF experts, as for the diplomats stationed in Kinshasa, the first thing that has to be done is reestablishment of the climate of confidence between foreigners and Zairians. Then anything will be possible. And Mobutu will be saved. To show that he has really decided to act with severity, the president recently separated himself from certain particularly shady colleagues. Several state commissioners (ministers) have been called on the carpet, and high officials and superior officers have been ousted. However, although changes have finally been made in the top echelon of the state, Mobutu has his eye principally on the success of the moralization campaign conducted by the Popular Movement of the Revolution (MPR), the sole Zairian party of which he is the founder and leader for life.

Three hundred twenty-five young party activists were mobilized for ideological information work among the rank and file under the watchword of "targets strategy." The targets are the regime's profiteers and all those who led the country into bankruptcy.

The party is waging a battle on three fronts, or at least it has the intention of doing so: against the big or small perpetrators of financial

misappropriations; against speculators and arrivistes who are seeking "rapid personal enrichment to the detriment of the general interest"; and against the disturbing degradation of individual and social customs. In this regard, the MPR reminds Zairians more and more frequently that the authenticity advocated by the president also entails respect for certain moral values. One deputy explained, "It is necessary that in the future the ordinary citizen knows he can initiate legal action for corruption, embezzlement or mismanagement [gabegie] against even a state commissioner for finance and that nothing and no one can stop him from taking it all the way. Only then will the situation be normalized and life in Kinshasa will cease being a nightmare."

8143
CSO: 4400

KAMANGA COMMENTS ON REACTION TO MUGABE VICTORY

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 11 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

ZAMBIA is not disappointed that Mr Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front failed to win the pre-independence elections in Rhodesia, member of the Central Committee Mr Reuben Kamanga has said.

Speaking on the Sunday Interview programme on Television Zambia on Sunday night, Mr Kamanga stressed that Zambia had always treated the Patriotic Front alliance equally.

Mr Kamanga, who is chairman of the Political and Legal Sub-Committee was asked if Zambia was disappointed by Mr Nkomo's failure to win more seats than premier-elect Mr Robert Mugabe. He said the country's support for the liberation of Zimbabwe was not based on individuals but on the principle of genuine majority rule.

"We are rejoicing because the people of Zimbabwe have won the struggle against the enemy not because an individual has won the elections."

It did not matter to Zambia whether Mr Nkomo or Mr Mugabe's party won the elections because both parties stood for genuine majority rule.

"It is completely untrue that Zambia has been disappointed by the results of the elections. The alliance followed the policies which we accept.

"The people have possibly preferred Mr Mugabe to Mr Nkomo to lead them and we accept Mugabe wholeheartedly. He has been entrusted by the people to carry out his policies."

He recalled that the liberation struggle was started in earnest by ZANU from the Zambian soil in 1972 adding that the party was then led by Rev Ndabaningi Sithole.

Recalled

Mr Kamanga described the call by the South African regime for a multi-racial conference to discuss that country's future as a delaying tactic.

Zambia did not take premier Pieter Botha's call seriously because it was not intended to bring about any significant change in that country's racial policies.

Mr Kamanga said by calling for such a conference Botha was trying to "cool down the tempers of Africans, making them believe that there is a change when this is not so."

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has hailed Zambia for the role she played in the liberation of Zimbabwe.

Speaking on arrival at Lusaka International Airport, deputy chairman of the solidarity committee, Mr Vladimir Koudriavtsev said Zambia played a great role in the liberation of Zimbabwe both as a good neighbour of that country and as a Frontline state. —Zana.

CSO: 4420

FLAWS OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM DIAGNOSED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 7 Mar 80 p 1

[Text] Members of Parliament yesterday diagnosed flaws in the proposed integrated local government administration to be effected later this year.

In the new system the post of mayor and other Party jobs at lower level will be scrapped, giving more power to district governors and their assistants including that of raising funds for local development.

But Mr Cosmas Masongo (Nchanga) asked how such a system would be implemented effectively when Government planning was "in a shambles."

Mr Masongo charged during the debate on estimates for the Ministry of Decentralisation (provincial local government administration) that there was at the moment, exploitation of man, not by man "but by Government."

Mr Masongo wondered whether the mining companies had even been informed about how they would be affected by laws relating to districts.

"In fact, up to now, they have not been informed about the coming changes in the districts they operate the mines," he said.

He appealed to the Minister of State for Decentralisation, Mr Fitzpatrick Chuula, to write off all water bills from companies and individuals in order for the new system to succeed.

The new system would fail if arrears were carried into the new local government administration because the bills were liabilities.

"This is a matter of urgency because secondary schools, for example, are in trouble. We don't want inefficiency to be transferred into the new system. In fact, we do not know, up to now what the position of town clerks will be," he said.

Mr Msongo suggested that if the Government found it difficult to rectify these mistakes now, the implementation of the new system should be deferred until 1982.

Mr Kanyalu Singoyi (Isoka), said the Government should allow the people to debate the introduction of the new system critically failing which they (people) would think the coming system was being imposed on them. [as published]

For example, Mr Singoyi wondered what the 15-plus leaders in one district would be doing as provided for in the new system.

He said in one district, there will be a governor at the top, helped by secretaries for finance, defence, agriculture, education, foreign affairs and many others.

"I am wondering what the secretary for foreign affairs in Isoka district will be doing."

He said the structure of the new system was not clear because it was apparent a lot of people would be employed. "We would like to know why it will be necessary to employ more people when the present staff is adequate."

Darlington Kopolo (Kankoyo), urged the Government to improve living conditions of people in districts when the new system came into force. He said drainages in most parts of the country, particularly in his constituency, were in bad condition.

If this appeal was not taken seriously by the Government, "what will the people who sent us here think of us?" he asked.

Mr Ablam Chitala (Mbala), appealed to the Government, particularly the Prime Minister, to build a rest house in his constituency where, he claimed, visitors were sleeping under trees.

"If this is not done, we shall make sure the Prime Minister sleeps under a tree when he visits us there to emphasise the need for a rest house in the district," he warned.

CSO: 4420

REPORTING ON STRIKES OVER WAGE INCREMENT, PRICES

Many Walkouts

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 11 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

A NUMBER of companies lost thousands of man-hours yesterday when workers struck over the K156 wage increment in Lusaka, Ndola, Mufulira and Mansa.

In Ndola the walk-out was by 800 workers at Colwyn, Low and Bonar and its sister company Modern Garments.

Managing director, Mr Laurie Williams, threatened to take disciplinary action against a senior employee in the clothing company who is alleged to have misinformed workers when they would be paid.

He said somebody within had misinformed the personnel that the firm intended to pay them less than K156 and that they were supposed to get their arrears last Friday.

According to Mr Williams, this information led to the strike.

"We are going to find out who this man is and we shall take immediate disciplinary action, even sacking him, whether he be in management or not," he said.

The company was not reluctant but it was awaiting written confirmation from the Clothing Manufacturers and Allied Workers Association indicating how much to pay the employees.

During the strike, workers manhandled a security guard who tried to stop some of them from sitting on the managing director's Mercedez Benz car. The guard was rescued by colleagues.

They also prevented Mr Williams from getting into his car to go home for lunch. He had to use a back door and another car.

In Lusaka armed police stood in readiness as more than 400 Rothmans of Pall Mall Zambia Limited workers staged a strike over the K156.

About 100 workers at two clothing factories in Mufulira Diddax and Advens — went on strike over the same.

In Mansa production of batteries ground to a halt following a strike at the Mansa Battery factory.

General secretary of the National Union of Commercial and Industrial Workers, Mr Francis Shabani and general treasurer, Mr Roy Musonda yesterday rushed to Mansa to persuade the workers to resume work.

The workers went on strike in protest against the management's alleged delays in paying them.

Meanwhile, Mr Shabani has urged the department of labour to summon the wages council to review salaries of shop workers who have not had any wage increase since 1974.

Mr Shabani warned of industrial disturbance throughout the country unless the wages council review the shop workers' wages.

The union is battling to reinstate the nine workers who have been sacked at ZCBC in Kitwe for going on strike over the K156. — Times Reporter/ Zana.

Strikes Increase

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 12 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

WALKOUTS over the K156 wage deal increased in number yesterday.

In Ndola two more companies — Piper Clothing and Diacarb — joined Colwyn, Low and Bonar with its subsidiary Modern Garments where workers have been on strike since Monday.

Mufulira governor Mr Ntana Chindefu's pleas fell on deaf ears as strikes at Kiddax and Advens entered their second day.

The only hope was that workers said they would report back if they were promised pay by the month-end.

About 400 workers at Monarch in Kitwe struck in protest against the Industrial Relations Court alleged delay in ratifying a collective agreement between their union and the management over the K156.

In Chililabombwe 40 workers at Bodwin Engineering Company Limited downed tools and marched to the office of the district labour officer Mr Fred Chituta in protest.

Plantation and Agricultural Workers Union chairman Mr Lackson Ikowa reported from Kabwe that 717 factory workers at Nakambala Sugar Estate in Mazabuka had walked out. Nakambala employs more than 5,000 people.

In Ndola the factories closed down following workers' refusal to return to work while negotiations were going on between unions and managements.

Diacarb management refused to pay its workers the Government stipulated K156 because it has an "internal wage policy."

A unionist in Ndola blamed the spate of strikes on the imposition by the Government of the K156 ceiling.

Addressing a Building, Engineering and General Workers Union seminar deputy chairman Mr Paul Chaikatisha said the imposition had disturbed collective agreements.

Efforts by the National Union of Commercial and Industrial Workers to persuade 800 workers at Colwyn and Piper failed.

Union area secretary Mr James Musonda was at pains yesterday shuttling between Colwyn and Piper but gave up eventually.

Happier news came from Tazara where workers in Zambia and their Tanzania counterparts had been given a K13 a month increase with immediate effect.

MP's Oppose Increases

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 12 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

SOME MPs yesterday spoke strongly against price increases and pleaded with the Government to scrap the recent increases.

Others accused the Government of making unilateral increases without following channels.

During a debate on the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, **Mr Rex Natsala** (Bwengwa) deplored the present increases which were announced by the Cabinet Office last month.

He said although the prices were later ratified by the ministry in a Government Gazette, they were still illegal because they had been announced by the Cabinet Office earlier.

"We don't want price increases to be announced in Cairo Road. In future, they must be channelled through the budget and be announced by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry," he said.

Mr Landson Hamtuba (Pemba), said Zambia's pricing policy left much to be desired. He wondered why the Government increased prices on essential goods including

beer and cigarettes — at a time when MPs were urging it to set up a better policy on prices.

"Where is the justification for this year's budget? This House is sick and tired of these price increases," he said.

He suggested that the Government should suspend these increases now until the next budget. "We don't need them. We are paying sales tax for anything we buy and yet the Minister of Commerce and Industry comes here to announce price increases which are baseless."

Mr Sebastian Kapala (Livingstone), warned that unless the Government dropped the present prices, the House would be forced to reject delegate powers the Ministry of Commerce on price increases.

He said: "The ministry is not well organised and if it continues to be disorganised, we shall consider reducing its powers on fixing prices. If the powers we give it are not properly used, we shall think twice," he said.

He was not totally against parastatal bodies raising prices as long as the distribution systems in the country were improved. Traders lost a lot of profits at the moment in paying for the transportation of goods.

He called on the Government to allow private companies to compete with State shops.

Mr Deny Kapandula (Chingola) asked the Government why the "long awaited" mill in his constituency had not been constructed and why second-hand vehicles cost more than new cars.

Mr MacDonald Mtine (Kantanshi) charged that Rucom Industries had failed "lamentably" because the purpose for which they had been set up had been defeated.

He explained that people sent to rural areas to work for the industries had instead, concentrated on sophisticated and scientific methods of developing rural areas.

Mr Mtine complained that Mufulira had been neglected even though it was near a potential market in Zaire.

Mr Maxwell Sibongo (Kabwata) urged the Government to "quickly" open up a trade commission in Salisbury and another in Pretoria so that trade with the racist republic could be done openly.

Government Firm on Decision

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 13 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

THE Government has declared that it will not back down on demands by Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) to suspend the current price increases on edible oils and bread because doing so would result in several industries closing down.

But the congress has also stuck to its guns, warning that the strikes now sweeping the country like bushfire by enraged workers in protest against the new prices would continue if its demands were not met.

"There will be no compromise over this issue," ZCTU general secretary, Mr Newstead Zimba, declared in Lusaka yesterday.

Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Joshua Lumina who, with Mr Zimba was speaking in separate interviews at the National Assembly, said it would be unfortunate if the congress' threat was carried out.

The two men were speaking in the wake of what appears to be a spate of uncontrolled strikes all over the country by workers.

The companies affected by the strikes which have received the congress blessing, so far, are Piper Clothing, Diacarb, Colwyn Low and Bonar and Modern Garments, all of Ndola.

Kiddax and Advens of Mufulira, Monarch of Kitwe, Bodwin Engineering Company Limited of Chililabombwe, Nakambala Sugar Estate in Mazabuka, Rothmans of Pall Mall, UBZ and several others in Lusaka have also experienced strikes.

When told that the Congress also wanted the present price increases to go, Mr Lumina said: "There is no way the Government can reduce the current prices without some companies grinding to a halt."

And 250 workers at Indeni Petroleum Refinery in Ndola went on strike yesterday in protest against the refusal by the Zimco board of directors to remove the personnel manager Mr Cleaver Mukuka. Mukuka.

● The Zambia National Provident Fund has done very well in paying out money to beneficiaries, Mr Lumina said in Lusaka yesterday.

He made the comment when he toured the ZNPF headquarters where he was taken around by director, Mr Jones Nyirongo, who told him how the organisation operates.

CSO: 4420

HIRING OF ZAIREANS AS 'CHEAP LABOR' CLAIMED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 12 Mar 80 p 5

[Text]

A SECTION of farmers in the Misundu farming community is allegedly engaging Zaireans for cheap labour because local farm hands demand higher pay.

This is alleged to have contributed to the high incidence of crime in the area, Party branch chairman, Mr Miyambo Kazembe, and one of the prominent farmers in the area, Mr Chibwe Mulenga, claimed yesterday.

Mr Kazembe and Mr Mulenga said this when they paid compliments to the police in Ndola for the efforts they were making in curbing the previously high incidence of robberies in the area.

They said since night patrols were intensified there, farmers had been able to sleep

'In the past month, we have not had a single robbery in the area and this is due to the commendable efforts of our police," Mr Kazembe said.

But they appealed to authorities to mount a clean up operation in the area to get rid of Zaireans employed on the farms, and said that this would greatly reduce crime there.

They said that some farmers recruited farm hands from Zaire for as little as K20 a month because wages for local hands ranged between K40 and K60.

They said the Zairean labourers accepted whatever they were paid because they had nowhere to complain since they entered the country illegally.

According to Mr Mulenga and Mr Kazembe, Zairean farm workers allegedly spied around the farming community and passed on the information to their countrymen.

CSO: 4420

ZCTU SEEKS TO HALT INFLATION

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 9 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Patchen Lwenje: "It's a Question of Survival"]

[Text] **"WHEN ministers start complaining about small portions of nshima, then you must realise that the nation is in trouble," remarked a commoner on the recent "nshima row" involving the Minister of Youth and Sport, Mr Ben Kakoma, in Kabwe.**

However, the very fact that someone can complain over the size of food is considered somewhat "okay," according to the chairman of the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions, Mr Frederick Chiluba.

Time will come, he warns, when the nation may reach a point where even the little food will be beyond the common man if the present rate of price hikes is not checked or if workers' salaries are not adjusted to suit the increases.

Already the high prices of essential commodities like edible oils, bread and flour (which were hiked just recently) have reached "strangulation" levels for the ordinary worker — and have led to the present potentially explosive situation where workers have been warned to brace for a general strike.

A cursory glance at figures released by the Central Statistics Office shows an increase in the standard of living for every year since 1969. In fact the last decade has recorded an increase of over 200 per cent in the cost of living.

And in all this the hardest hit has always been the worker in the low income bracket who has seen the prices of his shoes, clothes and food go up all the time and his meagre salary remaining static.

As he sees his buying power scuttled at the whim of some Government decree or through the sheer greed of unscrupulous businessmen, the low income wage earner has invariably adopted slogans like "the struggle continues" or "lend special" — referring to pop songs like Cliff Richard's "We don't talk any more".

Or as one wag put it the other day: "These days we do not really live. It is a question of survival and at the rate we are going I don't know how many of us will survive."

Drowning

The nation's pubs, which have in the past been ideal places for "drowning sorrows" have now got their own sad tale to tell. Since the increase of beer from 49n to 54n contained in this year's budget, attendance has dropped tremendously.

It was no less a personage than the general manager of Zambia Breweries, Mr Dominic Mbangu, himself who sounded the first alarm

bells recently when he reported that people were running away from bottled beer in favour of opaque and home made brews which are much cheaper and then drink one or two bottled beers before retiring.

As if to prove him right, the chibuku taverns and shebeens throughout the nation are experiencing a boost and the brewers of "killer" brews like kachasu and mbamba are said to be doing a roaring business in brews which, as one cynic put it, "are only illicit along the line of rail."

Across the nation, pubs which have been known to be always well patronised right up to closing time are now eerily empty as early as 20 hours in the evening and the freespending spirit well-known among Zambians seems to have disappeared as each one keeps a tight grip on his purse strings.

All this is not lost on the manufacturers of beer and soft drinks. There are talks going on between soft drink manufacturers and the Government on the recent price hikes and some shareholders in the Zambia Breweries have already expressed concern about "low" returns.

Still, chances of a reduction in prices of beer have been virtually scuttled by the Minister of Finance, Mr Kebby Musokotwane, who recently announced that the prices were here to stay. Maybe soft drinks manufacturers will have better luck.

Of course it is true that for the moment the market is flooded with many essential commodities like cooking oil, detergents, bread and others. But the question is: Are the current prices of these items affordable by the worker in the low income group?

The labour movement's leadership thinks the answer is an emphatic "NO" and have sent out word that they are no longer going to take price rises lying down. Their latest demand of the Government: "Nullify the recent price hikes or raise workers' salaries by up to 30 per cent or else there will be a general strike."

At a ZCTU emergency meeting held in Kitwe last week the labour leaders also called on the Government to introduce an immediate price freeze and said that no new price increases will be accepted by the congress with effect from Saturday, March 1, 1980.

Warned the acting general secretary of the ZCTU, Mr Chitalu Sampa: "Any such new price hike will spark off a nationwide strike to include all sectors of industry — including newspapers, radio and television."

Jail

If it means going to jail, the labour leaders added, then they will go and face the music. As many unionists contend that "things have gone just too far", could this then be interpreted as a threat against the Government?

"Not at all," insists the nation's leading labour leader, Mr Chiluba, 36. "Our demands do not constitute a threat. This is simply a statement of facts."

Mr Chiluba firmly believes that the workers are being "punished" for failures in the system which are not of their making and that it was time they sought redress through their representatives in the labour movement.

Emphasising the point, Mr Chiluba says: "Our statement is a statement of the workers' intention to seek redress against economic injustice inflicted on them. As labour leaders, our economic, cultural and moral judgment cannot permit us to acquiesce in a decision whose very effect and intention deny workers their right to live a normal life.

Crime

"I dont see the crime workers have committed in any of these justifiable demands to deserve the levels of prices imposed on them. True, prices can act as a positive leverage to development, but only as long as they take into account the levels of income."

He says many of these considerations are included in the much talked about Turner Report on wages and incomes which Government accepted, adding: "Yet it is clear that there is a departure from the recommendations of Professor Turner and we are wondering why."

Mr Chiluba has often "pleaded with our friends in the Government" to use "morality rather than power" in dealings with people, adding: "There can be no gun which can sound louder than a people's will." •

What the ZCTU would to do is to arrest any possibility of an explosion among the workers, and Mr Chiluba points out that the Zambian workers have for a long time now co-operated fully with the Government.

"When the International Monetary Fund came to our aid a few years ago we had to accept the 5 per cent or K6 wage increase ceiling. More recently we went along with the K156 which translated to a K13 increase in salaries for workers — an

increase which has of course been rendered useless by the new prices."

Enough

"No more", says Mr Chiluba. "We have co-operated enough. We must have the courage and decency to say no, or are we witnessing the start of master-servant relationship between us and Governments?

"If it is easy to effect limits on wages why is it not easy to put limits on prices? The Turner Report clearly shows that REAL incomes have dropped over the years — and yet it would appear the Government wants prices to go up before the report can be effected."

A cardinal point in the Turner Report is the centralisation of the mechanism which deals with arbitration between prices, wages and incomes. No price can go up without reference to levels of income.

Another cardinal point in the report is consultation between unions, the Government and employers. However, Mr Chiluba charges, freedom to bargain has been "curtailed" in the past three years starting with the IMF loan and its stringent conditions.

The Party and its Government have often maintained that price increases are due to the 1976 National Council resolution to withdraw subsidies from parastatals and quasi-Government bodies to up to 60 per cent, but Mr Chiluba retorts:

"Nowhere in that resolution does it say that incomes should not rise. Nor is it UNIP policy that people must starve. It is this same narrow minded interpretation of such resolutions that has led to the present economic malaise. Resolutions must be implemented to suit reality."

Realise

Government, he adds must realise that the goals of the labour movement are the same as those of the Party and its Government. "We all want economic viability and development, but we will not accept the notion that 'the end will justify the means' — which in effect means we must starve our people to reach viability."

Mr Chiluba also warns against the tendency to compare Zambia with other countries as a basis for formulating action policies saying this is "dangerous" because some of the countries being mentioned have long history of troubles sparked by price increases.

"Just as it is ridiculous to say because Coca-Cola in some European countries costs over K1, Zambians should feel lucky that theirs costs only 21n without taking into account that the general worker in those countries commands a general manager's wage in Zambia while his counterpart here has to make do with a measly K50 or so per month."

He says that some people also claim the nation's malaise is partly due to the fact that the workers "are not putting in enough" — an assertion which the forthright Mr Chiluba describes as "careless talk since no one has ever come up with a practical example of falling standards among unionised workers."

His assertion is that workers are very willing to work but lack managerial guidance and manipulation. There is just not enough ability to plan ahead and execute those plans right from the top.

Also, there has never been a census of population to find out how many people the economy is catering for, why our social assets like schools, hospitals and public transportation are short because of the increasing population.

"Plans for all these things are based on guesswork," he charged. "This is the same thing that has aggravated shortages and we still find it difficult to change some of these outdated plans because of our population growth. The problem will continue to haunt us for a long time to come."

According to the chairman of the Social and Cultural Sub-Committee of the Central Committe, Mr Elijah Mudenda, reconstruction of the country from the ravages of war will cost a staggering K600 million.

But Mr Chiluba also warns against the tendency among some Government leaders to talk about "expedients rather than practical" requirements as a means, perhaps, to "overcome or bury" certain problems saying this is "dangerous."

Disregard

"For instance, there is a tendency to disregard the customary and traditional Zambian family unit by trying to exhort people to exercise family planning because, they contend, that way the family can survive with limited people. In this way they hope to overcome shortages.

"Yet another expedient assertion is telling people to live simply, perhaps to lessen demand and thus

allow an ineffective Government machinery to catch up with life. Again this is all wrong."

"Man," Mr Chiluba asserts, "does not live or develop by instinct like animals and thus cannot be ruled expediently. Man cannot adjust himself to suit the ineffective machinery in a government. He will, instead, try to prop it up to suit himself. He develops by conscious.

"Similarly, man cannot reduce the hunger in him to suit the ineffective machinery of Government. It is the system, the machinery, that must suit man, not vice-versa. Thus, either the prices go down or the incomes go up — to the betterment of the people and the Party and its Government."

The ZCTU chief looks mildly surprised when the congress sometimes earns itself the label of being "unpatriotic", when "what we are trying to do is to bring patriotism not on to the lips but into the hearts of the people by affording them the means with which to live as this Government promised."

Insurance

"Trade unionism is the surest insurance the worker has and labour leaders have a duty to make sure that the people they represent get a fair deal", he adds: "and we in the leadership must be seen to do this."

Even if it means going to jail? "Well, I personally am convinced that what I stand for is correct, that I am doing the right thing. So I am not worried. If I was wrong, then I would worry. Besides, I don't see what is wrong with working for people."

Besides, like the man often likes to say, "principles are irreconcilable, only standards are adjustable."

MINISTRIES OWE OIL FIRMS MILLIONS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 10 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] Many Government ministries and departments are owing oil marketing companies over a million Kwacha.

Worst hit is Shell and BP Zambia Limited which has taken the matter up with the Ministry of Finance.

The company had earlier threatened to cut off further supplies to the Government unless bills were settled.

"We had reached a position where we were owed a lot of money by the Government and we had to discuss this at a high level. The matter is being sorted out," said a reliable Shell and BP source.

Finance Minister, Mr Kebby Musokotwane yesterday confirmed that Shell and BP was owed a lot of money.

"We know that this money must be paid in order to make Shell and BP work normally. It is not the Ministry of Finance that owes Shell and BP this vast sum of money, but it is a number of ministries and departments," he said.

Mr Musokotwane added that it was not all Government departments that owed Shell and BP.

It was not Shell and BP alone which was owed money by the Government departments and ministries "but other oil companies too."

The minister said the Ministry of Finance, as the paying ministry, could not do anything at the moment "until Parliament approve our estimates. They may cut the estimates."

But Mr Musokotwane said if there were any negotiations between Shell and BP and the ministry, these had not reached him yet.

He said his permanent secretary would only report to him if there were any problems.

But Mr Musokotwane said he was concerned about the indebtedness of the Government ministries and departments to Shell and BP and the other oil companies.

The Shell and BP source who did not want his name published said the matter was being sorted out between the company's sales manager and the Ministry of Finance.

"These people must know that we have a business to run and we have to pay staff. We also have to buy refinery and pay duty on customs and excise. One has to get money and representation at ministerial level," the source said.

CSO: 4420

NOSCO TAKEOVER NEGOTIATIONS REPORTED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 9 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

THE Ndola Oil Storage Company (NOSCO) is being valuated in readiness for takeover negotiations between the company's shareholders and the Zambia National Energy Corporation, a company director said yesterday.

The negotiations which were expected to start last week are now expected to begin next Wednesday, according to Mr John Burke-Gaffney, who is the managing director of Shell and BP Zambia Limited.

Mr Burke-Gaffney said there was no mystery about the postponment of negotiations.

A lot of preparatory work was being done by financial men, he said.

"It is difficult valuing a company," Mr Burke-Gaffney said, adding that up-to-date valuations were being studied.

"There are no problems at the moment. "Everybody is talking to each other and we are talking to the Zambia National Energy Corporation.

"No demands have been made at all and I am sure that when negotiations start, a figure will be arrived at amicably."

Realists

Asked whether NOSCO would demand a big amount he said Mr Burke-Gaffney said:

"We are all realists. Though there will be some debate on the price, that is life but there has been no debate on the price so far.

"No offer has been made or discussed and nobody is saying anything until discussions start," he said.

Mr Burke-Gaffney, however, referred the matter to the present NOSCO chairman, Mr Jacques Piette, the general manager of Total Zambia Limited.

Mr Piette said he had nothing to say on the issue.

The chairmanship of NOSCO alternates between the various shareholders who sit on the board of directors, of directors.

The directors are drawn from the managing directors of marketing companies — Shell and BP, Mobil, Caltex, Total and Agip.

NOSCO was set up as a measure to offset the effects on the Zambian economy following the declaration of UDI in Rhodesia in 1965.

CSO: 4420

EXODUS OF PILOTS, ENGINEERS HAMSTRINGS ZFDS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 9 Mar 80 p 7

[Text] The Zambia Flying Doctor Service [ZFDS] has been hit by an exodus of pilots and engineers almost forcing it to stop operations.

A ZFDS annual report for 1978 tabled in Parliament last week, said the ZFDS had difficulties in retaining experienced pilots or finding replacements because of low salaries and unattractive conditions of service.

The report says: "The shortage of pilots has limited the scope of air work and hampered plans by ZFDS to extend the humanitarian service to the community."

During the period under review, flying commitments had to be restricted because of insufficient pilots.

The service previously operated with two pilots using five aircraft between them. Later only one pilot was left to do all the flying assignments.

The report said since 1976, eight pilots, including two chief pilots, had left the service.

Five of them left during the 1976-1977 period and the other in 1978 — after only six months' service.

"The reasons given by most of the pilots who left were, besides low salaries, frustration, personal dealings with management staff and poor working environment and unfavourable conditions of service."

But in spite of the restrictions on flying by August 1978 the service had treated more than 94,133 patients in rural clinics.

Of this number, 1,686 were maternity cases.

In the same period 408 patients were flown to hospitals and 81 of these were transported as emergency cases.

The organisation's operations were further hampered by the difficulties in the transport section because of frequent breakdowns of vehicles.

This resulted in a reduction in the number of visits to clinics.

However, the number of doctors remained satisfactory and during the year under review one doctor left. But two expatriates were recruited, thus boosting the number from five to six doctors.

"In many respects, the period under review has been a difficult one in which a great deal of the activities were interrupted," the report says.

Delays in the provision of foreign exchange had also led to the ZFDS not clearing its accounts with overseas suppliers of drugs.

CSO: 4420

DEVELOPMENT OF KAFUE FLATS PLANNED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 7 Mar 80 p 4

[Article by Simon Mwanza]

[Text]

THE Government has drawn up plans to develop Kafue Flats into one of the most successful farming areas in the country said Minister of Agriculture and Water Development, Mr Alexander Chikwanda, in Lusaka yesterday.

Kafue Flats have always been referred to as the "single most valuable agricultural entity in Zambia."

"I cannot say much for the time being about Kafue Flats, but plans are there for big development although they are rather tentative and will need elaboration," Mr Chikwanda said.

Initial moves to develop Kafue Flats were started by the University of Zambia's Kafue Basin Research Committee (KBRC) designed to encourage a balanced programme of inter-disciplinary research and to contribute to the planned development.

A conference in 1968 was held in Lusaka at which all Government departments, parastatals and private bodies with interest in the development and well-being of the area exchanged views for the future development of the region.

Participants included ZESCO, a Swedish Consulting Group (SWECO), Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development, National Parks and Wildlife Department, the National Irrigation Research Station, Zambia National Tourist Bureau and the Zambia Sugar Company.

University of Zambia staff presented technical reports on the project.

The report by the committee, which was headed by professor Williams, head of the school of geography, says that the flats pose a major challenge and agricultural development there is seen mainly in terms of poldering.

This involves the construction of dykes within which water levels can be closely regulated.

The potential for this sort of development was realised long ago. Before independence, the flats were being referred to optimistically as the "granary of the federation".

The main problem at Kafue Flats appears to be the black soils which are difficult to work getting very wet during the rains, drying and cracking during the dry season.

Experimental work suggests, however, that given a high fertiliser application and careful management, high yields can be achieved of crops such as maize, kenaf, rice, cotton, groundnuts, sugar cane and wheat.

According to the committee's report, the Flats have the advantage that clearance costs would be low together with that of providing water because of the low gradients.

The proposals have become more favourable as food prices have continued to rise on world markets.

The Flats cover an area of 7,000 square kilometres.

CSO: 4420

ANIMAL FEED CRISIS HITS LUSAKA COLLEGE

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 7 Mar 80 p 4

[Text]

THE Natural Resources Development College (NRDC) has been hit by a critical shortage of calfmeal — and chicken feed is being used instead to keep the animals alive.

NRDC livestock officer, Mr Malama Mwamba, told Chairman of the Rural Development Sub-Committee of the Central Committee, Mr Kapasa Makasa, when he visited the college on Wednesday that the shortage was caused by "irregular" supplies from manufacturers and delays by the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development to release funds for the purchase of the commodity.

"What happens is that we get cheques on Wednesdays. But most of the times these cheques are delayed by one week and cannot therefore buy ca " Mr Mwamba said.

Because of the shortage of calf meal, weaning has been adversely affected and although chicken feed had a high content of protein which was vital for calves, it was more expensive than calf meal.

Chickens were now deprived of their food since calves needed more of this feed he said. "One calf needs about three kilogrammes of chicken feed a day, which is enough for six chickens."

Mr Mwamba said the ministry did not refuse to give money for animal food, "but they take too long to release it. I would like to appeal to the ministry to see to it that priority is given to us. There should be an automatic allowance for stockfeed." He suggested that the Government set up a milling plant for producing stockfeed only.

He said that at the moment the National Milling Company, which is the sole producer, cannot cope with the ever-increasing demand for the large variety of stockfeed.

Mr Mwamba said that the only answer lay in the establishment of an organisation which would solely look into the problem of stockfeeds to relieve NMC of the burden.

Mr Mwamba also revealed that owing to irregular supplies of stockfeed, the college had planted star grass for dairy cows, but the grass withered and subsequently dried up during the recent temporary drought.

At the moment, he said, the only supplementary grass the college has is Rhodes grass, which survived the drought. This will help alleviate the animals' heavy dependence on natural grass in the absence of feeds.

In reply, Mr Makasa called on young men and women to address themselves to research into new techniques to improve agricultural output.

"Our young men and women ought to understand the principle of ecology, the country's natural resources potential.

CSO: 4420

FISHING, TOURISM CAN RESUME, SAYS ZULU

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 13 Mar 80 p 1

[Text]

THE Government has, with immediate effect, lifted the ban on Zambian airspace, except for Western Province, and has re-opened Lake Kariba to fishing and tourism.

Announcing these measures in Parliament yesterday, Defence Minister and chairman of the National Defence and Security Committee, **Mr Grey Zulu** said all members of the reserve force and home guard units had been demobilised.

Mr Zulu said that following successful general elections in Zimbabwe and relaxation of tension, it had been found necessary to review the country's security situation.

With effect from yesterday, all members of the reserve force and home guard are demobilised to allow them to return to their jobs or studies, he said.

"I also wish to announce that the ban in the Zambian airspace by unscheduled flights has with effect from today, been lifted except for Western Province where current restrictions will continue," Mr Zulu told the House.

In addition the ban on activities of the Kafue Marina Club had also been lifted and this extended to Kariba dam.

Mr Zulu, however, appealed to people living between Luangwa and Livingstone along the Zambezi river to be wary of landmines planted by rebel soldiers as sweeping of the area would take three months.

"In carrying out this demobilisation, I would like to emphasise that the presidential order of mobilisation which was issued on November 24 has not been revoked."

This would be done when the Government was fully satisfied the security situation had completely returned to normal.

He said that the Government paid tribute to all the people who responded favourably to the call to serve the nation at a time of dire need.

This was a commendable exhibition of patriotism and dedication to duty... The nation could now count on the services of the reserves and home guards in the country's wide defence system.

"I would like to apologise for any hardships that occurred particularly during the early days of the mobilisation" he said.

When the Government conceived the mobilisation exercise it did not believe this would be easy to implement because various problems were anticipated.

"The endurance and tolerance of those mobilised is highly appreciated by the Party and its Government. I wish to assure the House that very valuable lessons have been learnt by my ministry to the extent that we promise to perform better next time," he said.

The minister warned that those who evaded the call up would "face the consequences for such an unpatriotic attitude."

"They will, therefore, not be allowed back into institutions of higher learning where they were if they are students. Such students must report themselves to the nearest Zambia National Defence Force unit," he said.

He said that on being demobilised, members of the reserve force and the home guard would be issued with certificates by the Zambia National Defence Force to show they attended military service.

Those who were exempted would be given certificates.

"Institutions of higher learning and employers must demand such certificates from their students or employees before they are readmitted to school or employment.

"Students and employees who will show up without certificates are deserters. They should be referred back to the Zambia National Defence Force. I would like to warn those who may try to dodge again that the long arm of the law will sooner or later catch up with them."

Answering supplementary questions on the statement, Mr Zulu said ZNDF were carrying out a programme to sweep the area between Luangwa and Livingstone of landmines left behind by former rebel soldiers.

He could not promise how long the exercise would take because the task was ardous and delicate and it involved covering a large stretch of land. It might take the ZNDF up to three months, he said.

Mr Zulu quizzed on what punishment would be meted out to those who evaded the call-up, said they should be regarded as "outcasts."

"If they are to be penalised, there should be no sympathy for them," he added.

On October 28, the Government declared Zambian airspace a restricted area in terms of the Aviation Act, and banned all aircraft — except scheduled flights — from flying anywhere in the country.

And on November 21, President Kaunda, putting the nation on full-scale war alert against aggression by the ormer rebel Rhodesian regime, recalled officers in the Zambia National Defence Forces who had retired or resigned as regular personnel.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

RUSTLERS MENACE SOUTH--Farmers in the Southern Province have expressed fears that the cattle population will diminish because of rustlers who resell stolen animals to butchers in urban areas. This fear has prompted cattle owners, especially in Mazabuka, Monze, Choma and Kalomo Districts, to abandon the tradition of cattlerearing by selling most of their stocks, leaving only small herds of oxen for ploughing. "It is profitable to sell the cattle to butchers rather than keep them until rustlers come to get them, leaving one with an empty kraal," Mr Benson Namakala of Kaleya near Mazabuka said. And in Monze where about 120 head of cattle have been stolen since last month, village headman, Hatontola, said unless the Party and its Government took emergency steps to curb cattle rustling, many people would stop rearing cattle. Monze governor, Mr Shadreck Mwiimbwa, said sometimes villagers were to blame for the unchecked activities of cattle rustlers because villagers never reported the rustlers' movements to the police. Mr Mwiimbwa promised he would do something about the matter while Monze police said they would investigate. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 13 Mar 80 p 5]

THREE DETAINED--President Kaunda has ordered the detention of three persons at Kamfinsa, Lusaka central and Lusaka remand prisons under the preservation of Public Security Regulations. According to the Government Gazette published yesterday, Malumo Mdutshwa Kinyabo, Michael Mooto Siwiwaliondo and Egbert Jan Wever have been detained at Kamfinsa, Lusaka remand and Lusaka central prisons. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 8 Mar 80 p 5]

CSO: 4420

END

SELECTIVE LIST OF JPRS SERIAL REPORTS

NEAR EAST AND AFRICA SERIAL REPORTS

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

WORLDWIDE SERIAL REPORTS

WORLDWIDE REPORT: Environmental Quality
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Epidemiology
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Law of the Sea
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Nuclear Development and Proliferation
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Telecommunications Policy, Research and Development